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United States
Department of Agriculture

USDA's 2009 Agricultural Outlook Forum Speakers Handbook

Global Agriculture & Rural America in Transition

**Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel
Arlington, Virginia**

February 26-27, 2009

www.usda.gov/oce/forum/



**Thank you Forum speakers for participating in
USDA's 2009 Agricultural Outlook Forum.**

The Plenary events will be Webcast after 3:30 p.m. February 26, 2009 at:

www.usda.gov/

**Speeches and slides presented at the 2009 USDA Agricultural Outlook
Forum will be available online the day of presentation after 6 p.m. on
February 26-27, 2009, at:**

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Forum Welcome

John Norris
Chief of Staff
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack named John Norris as his chief of staff on January 23, 2009. Norris has been chairman of the Iowa Utilities Board since 2005 and served as Governor Vilsack's first chief of staff in 1999. He served as Senator John Kerry's Iowa Caucus Campaign Manager and as National Field Director for the Kerry-Edwards Campaign. He was the Democratic nominee for Iowa's Third Congressional District in 2002.

Norris is a graduate of Simpson College and the University of Iowa Law School. He also served as state director of the Iowa Farm Unity Coalition in the mid-1980s. He is married to Jackie Norris, who serves as Chief of Staff to First Lady Michelle Obama. They have three sons.

USDA PLENARY SPEAKERS

**Joseph Glauber
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

2009 Agricultural Economic Outlook Foreign Trade Outlook

Joseph Glauber serves as Chief Economist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). As Chief Economist, he is responsible for the Department's agricultural forecasts and projections and for advising the Secretary of Agriculture on economic implications of alternative programs, regulations, and legislative proposals. He is responsible for the Office of the Chief Economist, the World Agricultural Outlook Board, the Office of Risk Assessment and Cost-Benefit analysis, the Global Change Program Office, and the Office of Energy Policy and New Uses.

From 1992 to 2007, Dr. Glauber served as Deputy Chief Economist at the USDA. In 2007 he was named the Special Doha Agricultural Envoy at the office of the U.S. Trade Representative and continues to serve as chief agricultural negotiator in the Doha talks. In addition to his work in the Doha negotiations, he served as economic adviser at the so-called Blair House agreements leading to the completion of the Uruguay Round negotiations. He is the author of numerous studies on crop insurance, disaster policy and U.S. farm policy. He has also served as senior staff economist for agriculture, natural resources and trade at the President's Council of Economic Advisers and as an economist at the Economic Research Service, USDA.

Dr. Glauber received his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of Wisconsin in 1984 and holds an AB in anthropology from the University of Chicago.

Forum Keynote Address

Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Tom Vilsack was sworn in as the 30th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on January 21, 2009. Appointed by President Barack Obama, Vilsack received unanimous support for his confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Secretary Vilsack has served in the public sector at nearly every level of government, beginning as mayor of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa in 1987, and then as state senator in 1992. In 1998, he was the first Democrat elected Governor of Iowa in more than 30 years, an office he held for two terms.

Throughout his campaign for Governor, Vilsack articulated a vision for making Iowa the Food Capital of the World and focusing on creating economic opportunity in rural communities and small towns through value-added agriculture. As Governor, he created the Iowa Food Policy Council to advance local food systems, enhance family farm profitability, and combat hunger and malnutrition. He led trade missions to foreign countries to market agricultural products and attended the Seattle meeting of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to push for expanded agricultural trade negotiations. In addition, he worked to support independent farmers and ranchers by enacting livestock market reform and mandatory price reporting legislation in 1999.

Vilsack was a leader among his colleagues. In addition to serving on the National Governors Association Executive Committee, he also served as chair of the Governors Ethanol Coalition, chair of the Democratic Governors Association, and founding member and chair of the Governors Biotechnology Partnership. As chair of the National Governors Association Committee on Natural Resources, Vilsack promoted private lands conservation and advanced the concept of tying farm payments to conservation commodities. Vilsack's national Private Lands, Public Benefits conference focused attention on the need to address conservation challenges by providing incentives to private landowners to implement conservation practices resulting in clean air, clean water, and enhanced wildlife habitat. He also created a comprehensive conservation program in Iowa to encourage and assist landowners in installing buffer strips, restoring wetlands, and rewarding good conservation practices.

During his tenure as Governor, Tom Vilsack initiated a comprehensive effort to increase economic opportunity and create good-paying jobs. He started Vision Iowa, a program to invest in cultural and recreational infrastructure throughout the state. A combination of venture capital initiatives created an entrepreneurial environment for innovation and new ideas to get started; and the Iowa Values Fund provided an economic growth strategy focused on creating and retaining jobs in targeted sectors including life sciences, financial services, and advanced manufacturing. Each of these initiatives created under Vilsack's

administration contributed to the rebuilding of local economies in small towns and rural communities across the state.

In addition to state economic investment, Vilsack's leadership and vision were instrumental in transforming Iowa to an energy state. His policies led to the construction of Iowa's first power facility in two decades and made Iowa a leader in alternative energy and renewable fuels. Vilsack created a regulatory and financial environment in Iowa for wind energy to develop to the point that it now makes up 5.5 percent of the state's generation, the largest percentage of any state. Iowa also emerged as a leader in the production of ethanol and biodiesel during his tenure.

Throughout his public service, Tom Vilsack has pursued an agenda dedicated to the principles of opportunity, responsibility, and security. He is recognized as an innovator on children's issues and education, economic and healthcare policy, and efforts to make government more efficient and accessible. Iowa is known for its strong K-12 education system in part due to Vilsack's initiatives. He developed aggressive early childhood programs, reduced class sizes, created a first-in-the-nation salary initiative to improve teacher quality and student achievement, and enacted a more rigorous high school curriculum. His leadership also led to Iowa becoming a national leader in health insurance coverage, with more than 90 percent of children covered.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Vilsack was born into an orphanage and adopted in 1951. He received a bachelor's degree from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, in 1972 and earned his law degree from Albany Law School in 1975. He moved to Mt. Pleasant - his wife, Christie's, hometown - where he practiced law. The Vilsacks have two adult sons, Jess and Doug, who both grew up in Mt. Pleasant, and a daughter-in-law, Kate, who's married to Jess.

DISTINGUISHED PLENARY PANEL

Food & Energy: Expectations & Realities

Panel Moderator: Sara Wyant
President
Agri-Pulse Communications

Sara Wyant is President of Agri-Pulse Communications, Inc., a diversified communications firm with offices in Washington, D.C., Little Rock, Arkansas, and St. Charles, Illinois. As a veteran farm policy reporter, she is well recognized on Capitol Hill as well as with farm and commodity associations across the country.

Her newsletter and web site, Agri-Pulse, includes the latest updates on farm policy, commodity and conservation programs, trade, food safety, rural development, and environmental and regulatory programs. She served as 2007/2008 Chairman of the Farm Foundation's Board of Trustees, is a member of the Steering Committee for the 25 x 25 Renewable Energy Group, and serves on the Advisory Board of the Agricultural Marketing Resource Center at Iowa State.

Wyant is a past president of the American Agricultural Editors' Association. In 2000, she received an Oscar in Agriculture for excellence in agricultural reporting and in 1996, received the United Soybean Board's producer communications award. She is an honorary member of Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE). Sara gained first-hand knowledge of crop and livestock production while growing up on a farm near Marengo, Iowa, and is still involved with her family's farming operation. She and her husband also own the farm where his grandparents' originally homesteaded near Almont, North Dakota, and where his brothers still farm, raise cattle and produce honey. Sara and her husband, Allan Johnson, have two sons: Jason and Jordan.

Michael Mack
Chief Executive Officer
Syngenta International AG

Michael Mack was Chief Operating Officer of Seeds (2004-2007) and Head of Crop Protection, NAFTA Region (2002-2004) for Syngenta. Prior to this, he was President of the Global Paper Division of Imerys SA, a French mining and pigments concern, from the time of its merger in 1999 with English China Clays Ltd., where he was Executive Vice President, Americas and Pacific Region, in addition to being an Executive Director of the Board. From 1987 to 1996 he held various roles with Mead Corporation.

He has a degree in economics from Kalamazoo College in Michigan, studied at the University of Strasbourg, and has an MBA from Harvard University.

Chris Policinski
President and Chief Executive Officer
Land O' Lakes, Inc.

Policinski was most recently Land O'Lakes Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Dairy Foods. In that position, he oversaw all of the company's Dairy Foods operations, including milk procurement, manufacturing, distribution, marketing and sales, as well as international sales and development.

Policinski joined Land O'Lakes in 1997 and has more than 24 years of management experience in the food industry. Prior to joining the company, he held senior leadership positions at Pillsbury and Kraft General Foods. Policinski holds a B.A. in finance from the University of Notre Dame and an M.B.A. from New York University.

Daniel Yergin
Chairman
Cambridge Energy Research Associates, Inc.

Daniel Yergin is a highly respected authority on energy, international politics and economics. Dr. Yergin is a Pulitzer Prize winner and recipient of the United States Energy Award for “lifelong achievements in energy and the promotion of international understanding.” He is both a world-recognized author and a business leader, as chairman of Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA), one of the world’s leading consulting and research firms in its field. He is also executive vice president of IHS, the parent company of CERA.

Dr. Yergin received the Pulitzer Prize for his work *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money and Power*, which became a number one best seller and was made into an eight-hour PBS/BBC series seen by 20 million people in the United States. The book has been translated into 12 languages. Of Dr. Yergin’s subsequent book, *Commanding Heights: The Battle for the World Economy*, the *Wall Street Journal* said, “No one could ask for a better account of the world’s political and economic destiny since World War II.” It has been translated into 13 languages. Dr. Yergin led the team that turned it into a six-hour PBS/BBC documentary—the major PBS television series on globalization. The series received three Emmy nominations, a CINE Golden Eagle award, and the New York Festivals Gold WorldMedal for best documentary.

Dr. Yergin plays a leadership role in the global energy industry. He chaired the U.S. Department of Energy’s Task Force on Strategic Energy Research and Development. He is a member of the Board of the United States Energy Association, and a member of the US National Petroleum Council. He recently served as Vice Chair of the new National Petroleum Council study, *Facing the Hard Truths about Energy*. He also has become the only foreign member of the Russian Academy of Oil and Gas. He is one of the “Wise Men” of the International Gas Union. He is CNBC’s Global Energy Expert.

Dr. Yergin was awarded the Medal of the President of the Republic of Italy for combining “an understanding of the dynamics of the market with a broad view of the forces of geopolitics as he seeks to point the way to the positive outcomes for the world community.” Dr. Yergin has been named one of the 500 most influential people in the United States in the field of foreign policy by the World Affairs Councils of America. He is a Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Center for Globalization at Yale University, a Trustee of the Brookings Institution, and on the Board of the New America Foundation, a Director of the U.S.-Russia Business Council and on the Advisory Board of the International Institute for Economics. Dr. Yergin holds a BA from Yale University and a PhD from Cambridge University, where he was a Marshall Scholar.

Dr. Yergin cofounded Cambridge Energy Research Associates, now an IHS company. Its offices are in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Beijing; Calgary; Mexico City; Moscow; Oslo; Paris; San Francisco; Sao Paulo; Singapore; Tokyo; and Washington, DC. IHS is a leading global provider of critical information and insight, decision-support tools, and related services used to facilitate decision making and improve productivity for the energy, defense, aerospace, construction, electronics, and automotive industries.

Catherine Ann Bertini
Professor of Public Administration
Syracuse University

Catherine Bertini is a professor of Public Administration at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and Senior Fellow, Agricultural Development at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. She is a leader in public sector management, international organizations, humanitarian relief, agricultural development and nutrition policy.

Ms. Bertini was the driving force behind reform of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), the world's largest humanitarian agency, where she was the Chief Executive for ten years. She was named the 2003 World Food Prize Laureate for her leadership at WFP in ending famine and decreasing hunger. She was appointed Executive Director of WFP in 1992 upon the recommendation of President George H. W. Bush and was re-appointed with the support of the administration of President William J. Clinton.

Following her WFP assignment, Ms. Bertini was appointed by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to be Under Secretary General for Management. There, she was responsible for the UN's human, financial, physical resources and security of staff worldwide. She also chaired the UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition and was the Secretary General's envoy twice: for drought in the Horn of Africa and for humanitarian needs in Gaza and the West Bank. She continues to organize assistance to increase the numbers of girls in school in developing countries.

As Assistant Secretary, Food and Consumer Services at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, she was responsible for domestic food programs. She proposed legislation for nationwide implementation of electronic benefit transfer programs for aid delivery, created a food package for poor breastfeeding mothers, and her team created the first Food Guide Pyramid to educate Americans on healthy diets. At the US Department of Health and Human Services as Acting Assistant Secretary for Family Support, she was responsible for regulations that strengthened education and training support for the poorest American women.

She was appointed by President George W. Bush as a member of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development which advises USAID. She is a juror for the Hilton Foundation Humanitarian Prize, and a founding board member of the new Global Humanitarian Forum based in Switzerland.

Ms. Bertini was decorated by the Republic of Italy with its Order of Merit. The Times of London listed her as one of the world's most powerful women. Ten universities in four countries have awarded her honorary degrees.

Currently, Ms. Bertini co-chairs, along with former USDA Secretary Dan Glickman, the Task Force on Global Agricultural Development of the Chicago Council of Global Affairs.

Concurrent Sessions

RURAL AMERICA TRACK

February 26, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salons V-VI

THE EFFECTS OF “RURAL” ON AGRICULTURE – THE CHANGING PARADIGM

The 2008 Farm Bill pulled back the covers on the traditional Farm Bill process and introduced new interest in a piece of the pie – Rural America. Traditional farm organizations are expanding beyond their farmer membership to carry the torch for rural America.

Moderator: Neil Conklin
President/CEO, Farm Foundation
Oak Brook, Illinois

Neilson C. Conklin is President of Farm Foundation. Prior to joining Farm Foundation in January 2008, Dr. Conklin was director of the Market and Trade Economics Division of USDA's Economic Research Service. The Market and Trade Economics Division provides a broad range of economic research and analysis on global agricultural markets. Prior to his service at USDA, Dr. Conklin was chief economist at the Farm Credit Council.

Between 1984 and 1988, Conklin worked at the USDA Economic Research Service in various capacities including fruit and vegetable outlook and as deputy director of the Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division. He also served as chief of the Agriculture Branch at the Office of Management and Budget and on the faculties of Colorado State University, the University of Arizona and Arizona State University.

Conklin received a Ph.D. in agricultural and applied economics from the University of Minnesota. He also holds an M.S. degree in agricultural economics from the University of Wyoming and a B.A. in history from Castleton State College in Vermont.

Funding Rural Development Programs: Past, Present, and Future

A look at the history of funding for Rural Development programs in the past appropriation and Farm Bills and how this may change in the future.

Galen Fountain
Majority Clerk, Senate Agricultural Appropriations Committee
on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC

Personal: Raised on small farm in South Central Kansas.
Primary production was wheat, feed grains, and beef cattle.

Employment:

- 1995 – Present U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee
Clerk, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related
Agencies
Herb Kohl (D-WI) Subcommittee Ranking Member
- 1989 – 1995 U.S. Senate Small Business Committee
Counsel for Agriculture and Rural Development
Dale Bumpers (D-AR) Chairman
- 1984 – 1990 Congressman Beryl Anthony (D-AR)
Managed Anthony District Office in Pine Bluff, AR.
- 1980 – 1984 Congressman Dan Glickman (D-KS)
Managed Glickman District Office in Hutchinson, KS.
- 1978 – 1984 Hutchinson, KS Public Schools
Taught History/Government

Education:

- 1978 B.S. Wichita State University
History Major
Political Science Minor
KS Teaching Certificate
- 1990 J.D. UALR School of Law
Associate Editor/ UALR Law Journal
- 1991 Admitted to AR Bar

Are Farmers More Dependent on Rural Communities Than Rural Communities Are Dependent on Farmers?

A report on the recent actions by the American Farm Bureau Federation establishing a Rural Affairs Policy Team will explore the dynamics of farmers and rural communities.

Bob Stallman
President, American Farm Bureau Federation
Washington, DC

Bob Stallman, a rice and cattle producer from Columbus, Texas, is president of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF), the nation's largest and most influential general farm organization. The 11th president in the organization's history, Mr. Stallman was first elected president on Jan. 13, 2000. He is the first AFBF president from the Lone Star State.

Prior to becoming AFBF president, Mr. Stallman was president of the Texas Farm Bureau, a position he held since 1993. He became a member of AFBF's board of directors in 1994. Mr. Stallman served on various committees and boards during his tenure on the AFBF board of directors, including chairman of the 1998 Farm Economy Committee.

A 1974 honors graduate of the University of Texas, Mr. Stallman joined the family farm operation in 1975. He was elected to the board of directors of the Colorado County (Texas) Farm Bureau in 1977.

In spring 2001, Mr. Stallman began serving on the board of trustees for the Farm Foundation, a nonprofit organization that improves the well-being of U.S. agriculture and rural people. In addition, he serves on the Advisory Board of the World Agricultural Forum, an independent organization that encourages open debate and discussion of international food, fiber and fuel issues.

Summary: Tom Johnson, an agricultural economics professor from the University of Missouri has said “farmers need rural communities more than rural communities need farmers.” The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) and U.S. agriculture are coming to grips with that concept more and more every day. Well into the 20th Century, American agriculture operated under the attitude that farming was the background of rural America. That paradigm is drastically changing. Make no mistake, however, agriculture and the land and tax base America’s farmer and ranchers provide are in a great many cases the financial base for many county and rural governments. They are the way rural America pays for its schools and often paves the roads and keep sheriffs on the payroll. Agriculture and rural America then face two critical issues: 1) enhancing the quality of life in rural America so future generations will want to remain on the farm and 2) dealing with the challenges of producing fuel, food and fiber as people from urban areas, who are often unfamiliar with the sounds, smell and other actions of production agriculture, move to the country. Since the start of last year, Farm Bureau is placing a new emphasis on rural development. We are focusing on three main areas: improving rural health care, expanding high speed internet service and enhancing rural education as our top rural development priorities at AFBF and the 50 state Farm Bureaus.

Rural Development and Funding from a State Perspective: State-Federal Funding Relationships

**Carole Jordan
Director of Agriculture Marketing and Community Development
Topeka, Kansas**

Jordan is a native Kansan, currently serving as senior director of the Rural Development Division within the Kansas Department of Commerce. Under this division, she oversees the Office of Rural Opportunity, Agriculture Marketing and the Community Development areas.

Prior to this appointment, she held several different positions with the Kansas Department of Agriculture over a number of years. Past positions with this department included program analyst, acting weights and measures program director, public information officer and director of outreach and education.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism and a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Kansas.

She works along with the Kansas Secretary of Commerce to inform all Kansans about the importance of agriculture and rural communities to a healthy economy for the state of Kansas.

Summary: “Effects of ‘Rural’ on Agriculture: The Changing Paradigm.” I am planning to describe current Kansas efforts to unify state, federal and private resources for rural development, to encourage regions and communities to build their own leadership, teamwork and strategic planning resources, to acknowledge the deep ties between agriculture and rural communities that support the economy of the state, and to connect resources to needs. I plan to look at all this in light of the 2008 Farm Act.

MEASURING AGRICULTURE TRACK

February 26, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salon IV

THE COUNT THAT COUNTS: THE CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE & POLICY DECISIONS – CHANGES IN “RURAL” AMERICA

Results of the 2007 Census of Agriculture were just released. What do they reveal about the current status of U.S. agriculture and rural America? Emphasis will be on new data products and on the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS's) efforts to increase participation from minority and small farm operators.

**Moderator: Cynthia Clark, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service,
USDA
Washington, DC**

Dr. Cynthia Clark is Administrator of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), overseeing the agency's efforts to collect and disseminate data on every facet of U.S. agriculture.

Clark is an accomplished statistician who is highly respected both in the United States and overseas for her expertise in survey research and development. Before joining NASS, she directed statistical research and survey methodology for the United Kingdom's Office for National Statistics and, prior to that, at the U.S. Census Bureau.

Clark has strong roots in agricultural statistics, having previously spent 13 years working on the Census of Agriculture and serving as the Director of the NASS Census and Survey Division. She has also served in numerous professional positions with the American Statistical Association (ASA), the International Statistical Institute (ISI) and the International Association of Survey Statisticians. Additionally, she is a fellow of the ASA, an elected member of ISI and a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society.

Under Clark's leadership, NASS conducts hundreds of surveys and issues nearly 500 national reports each year on agricultural production, economics, demographics, and environmental statistics. NASS also conducts the Census of Agriculture every five years, providing the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

Clark was raised in Colorado, the daughter of an agricultural banker. She received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Mills College in California, and masters and doctoral degrees in statistics from Iowa State University. Her husband, Glenn, grew up on a livestock farm and ranch in southeastern Idaho. She and her husband are the parents of six children and grandparents of eleven. They make their home in McLean, Virginia.

2007 Census of Agriculture Highlights

Carol House
Deputy Administrator, Programs and Products
National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA
Washington, DC

Carol House is the Deputy Administrator for Programs and Products, Chair of the Agricultural Statistics Board for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). She was appointed to this position in 2005. Prior to this appointment, she served as the Associate Administrator of NASS.

House began her career with NASS in 1976. Since then, she has worked in and led various divisions and branches throughout the agency, including the Statistical Sampling Branch, the Survey Management Division and the Research and Development Division.

House attended graduate school in mathematics and statistics at the University of Maryland and attended Auburn University as an undergraduate. She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. A native Floridian, she lives with her husband, Bob, in Alexandria, Virginia. They have one daughter, Lauren, who is a designer in Boston, Massachusetts.

Summary: An overview of how the 2007 Census of Agriculture was conducted and what the results show about trends in U.S. farms and farmland.

The Changing Face of U.S. Agriculture

Virginia Harris
Statistician, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA
Washington, DC

Virginia Harris is a graduate of Rice University, Stanford University, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with advance degrees in Agricultural Economics. She has worked for the National Agricultural Statistics Service for six years. Her work has focused on the Census of Agriculture, with special interests in demographic data and farm structure. She has explored the demographic data available from the census on multiple operators and researched succession possibilities on American farm operations. She is currently serving on the content team for the 2012 Census of Agriculture.

Summary: A look at the latest demographics information on U.S. farms, farm operators and their households, along with a discussion of NASS's efforts to increase Census participation among minority and small farm operators.

The Cutting Edge: Emerging Issues

Kevin Barnes
Chief, Environmental, Economics and Demographics Branch
National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA
Washington, DC

Kevin Barnes has worked for the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) for the past 27 years. He is currently Chief, Economics, Environmental and Demographics Branch. Prior to his current position, he served as State Director of the NASS Virginia Field Office, Head, Commodity Surveys Section and as a Commodity Specialist. He is a graduate of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

Summary: A discussion of new information collected in the 2007 Census and upcoming Census follow-on studies focuses on topics such as irrigation, energy production, and organic farming.

Implications for Future Farm Programs and Policy

Craig Jagger
Chief Economist, House Agriculture Committee
Washington, DC

Craig Jagger has been the Chief Economist for the House Committee on Agriculture since February, 2001. Working first for Republican Chairmen Larry Combest and Bob Goodlatte, he has worked for Democratic Chairman Collin Peterson since January, 2007. While at the Ag Committee (and in previous jobs at the Congressional Budget Office and USDA's Farm Service Agency), Craig has worked on a number of bills including four farm bills, four budget reconciliation bills, and one major (and one minor) crop insurance bill, among others. He also has worked for the U.S. Government Accountability Office and USDA's Economic Research Service.

Craig was raised on the Kansas family farm that his great-grandparents homesteaded 143 years ago. "Jagger" wheat, the most widely planted wheat variety in Kansas from 1998 through 2005, is named after his late father. He started his formal education at a two-room country school (without indoor plumbing) a mile and a half from the farm. His Bachelors degree in technical theatre and Masters' degree in agricultural economics are from Kansas State University and his Ph.D. in agricultural economics is from Cornell University.

Craig has been married to Joy Harwood for almost 22 years. She is the Chief Economist and Director of Economic and Policy Analysis at USDA's Farm Service Agency. For 8 years, they co-taught a popular evening class on commodity programs at the USDA Graduate School that was taken by over 200 students. In 2001 and 2005, Joy and Craig adopted two beautiful and talented daughters from China — Margaret Joy Ling, age 8, and Caroline Shu Ni, age 4.

Summary: A perspective on what the Census results reveal about future direction of farming, farm programs and policy.

FOOD SECURITY/WORLD MARKETS TRACK

February 26, 1:45 p.m.-3:15

Salon II

GLOBAL & DOMESTIC PERSPECTIVES ON FOOD SECURITY

Food security — access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life — is one requirement for a healthy, well-nourished population. In recent months, food security both in the U.S. and globally has been challenged by rising food prices. Topics will provide food security statistics and describe programs aimed at mitigating food insecurity in the U.S. and in developing countries.

Moderator: Pat Sheikh, Deputy Administrator, Office of Capacity Building and Development, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA, Washington, DC

Ms. Sheikh was selected as the Deputy Administrator for the Office of Capacity Building and Development in November 2006. Ms. Sheikh is the architect of USDA's Africa Strategy, and was the key architect of USDA's North Asia trade policy strategy. She assumed this position after having a distinguished career of leading the Department's efforts to resolve trade policy issues for well over a decade.

In her new capacity, she is charged with overseeing all capacity building endeavors, including those associated with food assistance thereby employing a "holistic approach" to development. Ms. Sheikh also coordinates the Government's foreign policy objectives as they relate to capacity building endeavors. Her extensive work in agricultural affairs puts her in a unique position to assume her new duties. Her work experience also includes serving as Director of the agency's Trade Policy Division for the Asia and Americas from 1993 – 1997. From 1989 - 1993, she led the Cotton Analysis Section of FAS's (then) Tobacco, Cotton and Seeds Division, focusing on China.

Ms. Sheikh worked as an agricultural economist in the agency's (then) Foreign Production Estimates Division from 1983 - 1989, after having worked as an agricultural economist in its Grain and Feed Division from 1978 - 1983. From 1977 - 1978, she was an international economist in the Office of Foreign and Economic Policy in the U.S. Department of Labor.

A native of Maryland, Ms. Sheikh holds a B.A. degree in history and political science and a minor in economics from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland in Baltimore and an M.A. degree in international relations from the School of Advanced International Relations in Washington, DC at Johns Hopkins University.

U.S. Food & Nutrition Assistance Programs: How Good Is the Safety Net?

Steven Carlson
Director, Office of Research, Nutrition, and Analysis
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA
Alexandria, Virginia

Steven Carlson is the Director of the Office of Research and Analysis at USDA's Food and Nutrition Service. He is responsible for the development, design, and execution of policy research and analysis for the Nation's nutrition assistance programs and for the preparation of legislative, regulatory and cost analyses. He has managed a portfolio of research contracts and grants worth nearly \$105 million since 1989, producing nearly 300 analytical and technical reports to meet information needs of policy officials and program managers. He also led a five-year partnership to create the first rigorous and comprehensive estimate of the extent of food insecurity in America, providing a critical benchmark to assess the performance of the Nation's investment in food assistance.

Summary: Official USDA statistics show that 89 percent of American households were food secure through the entire year in 2007, meaning that all household members had access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. The remaining households (11.1 percent) were food insecure at least some time during the year. About one-third of food-insecure households (4.1 percent of all U.S. households) had very low food security, meaning that food intake was reduced and eating patterns disrupted at times during the year. While the problem of food insecurity may be limited, there is a broad consensus that it is never acceptable.

USDA's 15 nutrition assistance programs form the first line of the Nation's defense against hunger. The national nutrition safety net plays a vital role in ensuring that low-income Americans – especially children – have access to healthy food and nutrition education at schools, day care facilities, and in their homes. Taken together, these programs reach 1 in 5 Americans over the course of a year. Funding for nutrition assistance – and the number of people served – have increased substantially in recent years and are expected to grow further in response to current economic conditions. Promoting food security for all American communities is a challenge that requires the combined efforts of citizens, the private sector, and local, State and Federal government.

The Rest of the Story: Community Food Assistance — A View from the Grass Roots

George Braley
Senior Vice President of Government Relations and Public Policy
Feeding America
Washington, DC

George Braley is the Senior Vice President of Government Relations and Public Policy at Feeding America. In this position he is responsible for research, advocacy, public policy and government relations.

Prior to joining Feeding America in September, Mr. Braley was the Associate Administrator of the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), U.S. Department of Agriculture. As the Agency's senior career executive, Mr. Braley, along with the Administrator, had overall responsibilities for management of the Nation's food assistance programs, including the Food Stamp Program, the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, The Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), the Child and Adult Care Feeding Program, the Summer Food Service Program and the Food Distribution Programs.

During his 35 year federal career Mr. Braley held a number of positions with the Agency. Mr. Braley's early career with FNS was spent in the Office of Policy Planning and Evaluation as well as in the Agency's Child Nutrition Division.

Mr. Braley was the recipient of three Presidential Rank Awards. He received a B.A. in Economics from the University of Maryland. He attended graduate school at Pennsylvania State University and received a Master's Degree in Public Administration. Born in Maryland, Mr. Braley currently resides in Oakton, Virginia.

Summary: The speaker will provide an overview of the community nonprofit food assistance sector, its extent, how it operates, how it relates to USDA's programs, and how it has been affected by, and responded to, recent increases in food prices.

Global Safety Net: The New Challenges Facing Food Aid

Allan Jury
Director, U.S. Relations Office, World Food Programme
Washington, DC

Allan Jury has been Director of the World Food Programme's (WFP) US relations office since September 1, 2008. In his current post based in Washington, DC, Mr. Jury is responsible for managing WFP's relations with its major partners in the US government and representing WFP in dialogue with US-based civil society and private organizations interested in global food assistance issues. He also coordinates WFP's relations with the World Bank headquarters.

Mr. Jury previously served as WFP's Director of External Relations (2004-2008), where he was responsible for representing the programme and developing organizational policy on UN reform, interagency affairs, and relations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs). He joined the World Food Programme in March 2001 as Chief of the Policy Service, a post he held until June 2004.

Mr. Jury, a national of the United States of America, came to WFP following a twenty-five year career with the U.S. Department of State. He served as Director for Policy and Resource Planning in the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration prior to joining WFP. He has worked on international humanitarian and refugee affairs since 1987, with assignments in Washington, Geneva, and Bangkok. Other overseas diplomatic assignments have included the Philippines and the Netherlands.

Born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, Mr. Jury is a 1975 graduate of Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota with a B.A. in political science and Asian studies. He is married with two sons in their 20's.

Summary: The speaker will examine recent issues regarding food aid: changes in focus (development versus emergency), changes in commodity composition (grain versus non-grain), and changes in recipient countries. Policies of key donors in terms of objectives and budgets and distribution mechanisms (cash versus commodity donations) would also be reviewed. The speaker will also discuss the challenges of the current market situation of tight food supplies and increased food insecurity, including implications for international food and nutritional assistance programs.

The Role of Public-Private Partnerships in Strengthening Food Security

His Excellency Dr. Kwame Bawuah-Edusei
Ambassador of the Republic of Ghana to the United States of America
Washington, DC

At 50, His Excellency Dr. Kwame Bawuah-Edusei is one of the major community opinion leaders who helped organize Ghanaians in North America towards sustainable democratic dispensation in their motherland. In the process, he helped promote business from USA to Ghana. He is also a humanitarian who worked extensively in the deprived areas of Northern Ghana, offering free medical services at his own expense.

As a scientist, humanitarian and a businessman, he was selected to represent his country at the United Nations Offices in Geneva and Vienna in 2004. He was also the Ambassador to Switzerland and Austria. His record of representing his country on the international scene, promoting business and securing major international conferences to his native Ghana is commendable. He also became a Board Member of the United Nations Institute of Training and Research in Geneva in 2005. His excellent record propelled him to his new position as Ghana's Ambassador to the United States, Mexico, the Bahamas and Guatemala in September 2006. Prior to his public service, he was a medical doctor who specialized in Family Medicine. He graduated from Howard University in Washington, DC in 1993. He had assumed several medical positions and had his own medical clinic in Alexandria, Virginia, when the call to duty took him to represent Ghana in the United Nations in Switzerland and Austria.

Summary: Food Security/World Markets Global & Domestic Perspectives on Food Security — The Right to Food is a fundamental human right and it goes without saying that households must have reliable supply of food to maintain good health. However, over 800 million people worldwide are food-insecure. There is the need to reflect on and strategize for solutions to global issues that threaten agriculture and food production, and the very existence of mankind. Millions of people are still facing high domestic food prices which have adversely affected access to nutritious food and in the long term, this leads to lost human and economic potential for poor people and countries. Ensuring food security will require improving agricultural productivity and a combination of efficient energy use as well as diversification from traditional fossil fuels. The impact of high food prices in developing countries is of serious concern, especially when the poor spend up to 80 percent of their meager income on food. This situation has rendered many countries in sub-Saharan Africa unable to fund critical activities adequately, such as health care and the provision of safe drinking water which could adversely affect Africa's growth in the 21st Century. This could also pose significant threats to employment, good governance, peace and security. The number of food-insecure people could rise worldwide by more than 16 million for every percentage increase in the real prices of staple foods, meaning 1.2 billion people could be chronically hungry by 2050. A situation which, if not addressed urgently, will erode progress at achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Unfortunately 862 million people are still undernourished in the world today. Therefore, we have to address the challenges of bio-energy, biofuels, climate change, and the current situation of soaring food prices that are having adverse impact on food security, particularly in developing countries.

CONSERVATION TRACK

February 26, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salon I

QUANTIFYING PRACTICES WITH THE CONSERVATION EFFECTS ASSESSMENT PROJECT

The Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) is a multi-agency effort to scientifically quantify the environmental benefits of conservation practices used by private landowners. Project findings will guide USDA conservation policy and program development and help farmers and ranchers make informed conservation choices.

**Moderator: Lisa Duriancik, Coordinator, Conservation Effects Assessment Project,
Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Lisa Duriancik, with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Resources Inventory and Assessment Division, is the Coordinator for the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP). Lisa has served as the CEAP Coordinator with NRCS for 1.5 years and her national leadership and management responsibilities include coordinating across CEAP efforts, leading the CEAP Watershed Assessment Studies and interagency coordination. Lisa has worked on CEAP planning and management for over five years. Prior to joining NRCS in 2007, Lisa worked for USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) for 5 years, where she managed competitive grant programs and provided national leadership for water resource, conservation, and air quality issues.

Lisa was a recipient of a group USDA Secretary's Honor Award for her eGovernment leadership and management efforts while at CSREES. Prior to joining USDA in 2002, Lisa worked as a soil consultant for a private company, as a soil ecology research associate for the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center for 4.5 years and as a soil and agronomy research technician for the Rodale Institute Research Center for 3.5 years. Lisa earned a Master of Science in Environmental Science from The Ohio State University and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies from Allegheny College, Meadville, PA.

The CEAP National Assessment—Cropland: The River Basin Studies

**Bob Kellogg
Agricultural Economist/CEAP-Cropland Leader, Resources Inventory and
Assessment Division, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA
Beltsville, Maryland**

Robert Kellogg is presently a natural resource analyst at the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Resources Inventory and Assessment Division, Beltsville, MD. Bob has worked in a similar capacity at NRCS for about 15 years. Prior to that, he was an economic analyst at the Economic Research Service for 3 years and the Central Intelligence Agency for 5 years. He previously worked as an aquatic biologist for a biological consulting firm and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Bob has a Master of Science in aquatic ecology from Iowa State University, a Master of Biomathematics from North Carolina State University, and a PhD in agricultural economics from North Carolina State University. Bob helped organize the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) at NRCS and is specifically responsible for carrying out the National Assessment for Cropland.

Effects of Conservation Practices on Environmental Quality in Small Watersheds—The Agricultural Research Service Benchmark Watershed Projects

Mark R. Walbridge

**National Program Leader, Soil & Water Resource Management, Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Agricultural Research Service, USDA
Beltsville, Maryland**

Mark Walbridge is currently on detail as the Division Chief for Renewable Energy, Natural Resources and Environment, in the Research, Education, and Extension Office (REEO), Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, where he coordinates research and science-based activities in his area across the REE mission agencies. His permanent position is National Program Leader for Water Availability and Watershed Management, Office of National Programs, Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, MD, where he directs research at more than 30 ARS laboratories throughout the US on topics related to watershed management, ecosystem restoration, and water availability and quality, with particular responsibility for watershed-based research activities, including ARS' Benchmark Watershed Research Network. Dr. Walbridge also serves as ARS' Headquarters Coordinator for the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) Croplands Initiative and as Science Lead for the CEAP Wetlands Mid-Atlantic Regional Assessment.

Before coming to ARS, Dr. Walbridge served as Program Director for the National Science Foundation's Ecosystem Studies Program (2004-2006), Professor and Chair of the Department of Biology at West Virginia University (2001-2004), and Assistant/Associate Professor of Biology/Environmental Science & Policy at George Mason University (1989-2001). He was also the founding Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Urban Ecosystems* (1995-2004). Dr. Walbridge holds B.A. and M.S. degrees in Biology from West Virginia University, and a Ph.D. in Botany from the University of North Carolina. Dr. Walbridge's research career focused on the ecology and biogeochemistry of freshwater wetland and forest ecosystems, with particular interest in the cycling of phosphorus and associated elements. He has published more than 25 papers in the peer-reviewed literature.

Measuring the Effects of Agricultural Conservation Practices on Water Quality at the Watershed Scale — The CSREES Competitive Grants Watershed Projects

Mike O'Neill

**National Program Leader, Water Resources; Cooperative State Research,
Education, and Extension Service; USDA
Washington, DC**

Mike O'Neill is the National Program Leader for Water Resources in the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) – managing a \$50 million portfolio of research, education, and extension projects focused on water resources. Dr. O'Neill is the co-chair of the CSREES Committee for Shared Leadership for Water Resources – a unique partnership between land grant university research, education, and extension professionals and CSREES. Mike also is the co-chair of the USDA Working Group on Water Resources – helping to coordinate agency water programs across the Department. Since 2004, Mike has participated on the CEAP Steering Committee and he helped lead the effort to launch the competitive grant funded watershed projects in the CEAP portfolio.

Prior to joining USDA in 1998, Mike was a faculty member in the Watershed Science Unit at Utah State University and the Department of Geography at Virginia Tech. He has an A.B. degree in Geography from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, and a Ph.D. in Geography from the University at Buffalo.

COMMODITIES/FOOD PRICES TRACK

February 26, 3:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salon III

FOOD PRICE OUTLOOK

**Moderator: Chuck Abbott, Commodities Journalist, Reuters
Washington, DC**

Chuck Abbott is commodities correspondent for Reuters, covering U.S. agriculture and food policy in Congress and the executive branch. Since 1988, he has reported on the move toward free-market agriculture and away from government planting controls on U.S. farmers. Abbott grew up on a farm in northwestern Illinois, holds a master's degree from Sangamon State University in Springfield, Ill., and was the 2007 president of the North American Agricultural Journalists. He and his wife, Diane Ballard, live in Arlington, Va., with their daughter, Sarah.

Food Price Outlook

**Ephraim Leibtag
Economist, Economic Research Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Ephraim Leibtag, an economist with USDA's Economic Research Service, researches retail food prices and the dynamics of retail food markets. His research interests include forecasting and analyzing trends in retail food markets and his work is used in presentations to government officials, policy analysts, the research community, and other public audiences. He has conducted radio, television, newspaper, and magazine interviews on retail food price trends.

The Role of Commodity Prices in Food Inflation in the United States

William Lapp
Advanced Economic Solutions
Omaha, Nebraska

Mr. Lapp has over 25 years of experience in analyzing and forecasting economic conditions and commodity markets. In 2005 he formed Advanced Economic Solutions, and prior to that was the Vice President of Economic Research for ConAgra Foods.

Advanced Economic Solutions is dedicated to providing high quality economic and commodity analysis to agri-business and food companies. Advanced Economic Solutions provides forecasts and analysis for procurement, investment and risk management decisions, in order to help these companies in their decision-making processes and strategic thinking.

Mr. Lapp has experience in providing comprehensive economic analysis of grain, livestock, and dairy markets. He has extensive experience in forecasting market conditions from a risk management perspective, as well as providing strategic direction and insights for a broad cross-section of food industries.

Mr. Lapp recently became a director of the Kansas City Board of Trade. He also serves on the board of the Farm Foundation and the Kansas City Federal Reserve Board's Center for the Study of Rural America. Mr. Lapp is a member of USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service Advisory Board, the Omaha Chamber of Commerce Ag committee, and participates on the Harvard Business Industrial Economists' Round-Table.

Mr. Lapp grew up on a dairy-hog farm in northern Illinois. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Math and Computer Science from Southern Illinois University, and a Master of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University.

Is Increased Global Grain Price Volatility Here to Stay?

Christopher Delgado

**Strategy and Policy Advisor, Agriculture and Rural Development Department
The World Bank
Washington, DC**

Christopher Delgado joined the World Bank in April 2006 as the Rural Strategy and Policy Adviser, located in the central Agriculture and Rural Development Department. He also task manages the coordinating secretariat for the Bank's Global Food Crisis Response Program. He came to the Bank from nearly 27 years at the International Food Policy Research Institute, and also held for 11 years a part-time external faculty appointment at the Johns Hopkins University Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. He has worked extensively in Africa and Asia. From 2003 until joining the Bank, he was also a joint appointee of the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, Kenya, where he directed ILRI's Markets division, and helped extend the institute's activities to Asia. Chris has focused over the years on the links of agriculture to the performance of the broader economy in developing countries. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Cornell University and is the author or editor of 6 books and over 100 research monographs and professional papers in agricultural economics, published in several languages.

Summary: Two years of rising global food and fuel costs pushed tens of millions of people around the world into poverty and chronic hunger in 2008, joining more than 900 million already chronically malnourished people at the time. Now global grain prices are falling again, along with fuel prices, discouraging once again the supply responses mobilized by higher prices in mid 2008, although food prices in the poorest developing countries remain significantly higher than previous averages. The world is thus faced with the worst of all food situations: continuing misery of poor consumers, uncertainty as to food production incentives going forward, and the real possibility of a new crisis for the poor once new growth once again inflates fuel prices and demand for commodities. It is difficult to find empirical evidence that supports a view that grain price volatility has increased permanently. Yet the reasons to believe that it has are strong: much greater linkage between corn and oil prices when oil is expensive, the much greater presence since 2005 of noncommercial transactions in grain future markets, the outlook for oil and financial volatility, the much greater volume of finance and oil transactions compared to grain transactions, and the uncertainties introduced by climate change in tropical countries. This presentation will review the issues and evidence, and assess implications for agricultural development and food security policies in developing countries.

AG & RURAL POLICY: UNITED STATES & EUROPEAN UNION

From trade talks to renewable fuels standards – the European Union (EU) and the United States do not appear to have commonality, but are they really that far apart? The EU has been moving budget from Pillar I (Direct Farm Payments) to Pillar II (Rural Development). How well is this working and being supported by farmers and rural communities?

**Moderator: Charles W. Fluharty, Vice President for Policy Programs
Rural Policy Research Institute
Columbia, Missouri**

Charles W. Fluharty is the Founder and President Emeritus of the Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI), the only national policy institute in the U.S. solely dedicated to assessing the rural impacts of public policies. He currently services as RUPRI's Vice President for Policy Programs. Since RUPRI's founding in 1990, over 250 scholars representing 16 different disciplines in 100 universities, all U.S. states and 25 other nations have participated in RUPRI projects, which address the full range of policy and program dynamics affecting rural people and places. Collaborations with the OECD, the EU, the German Marshall Fund, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture, the International Rural Network and other international organizations are framing RUPRI's comparative rural policy foci.

A Research Professor in the Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs at the University of Missouri-Columbia, he also holds an Adjunct Faculty appointment in the UMC Department of Rural Sociology. The author of numerous policy studies and journal articles, he has presented dozens of Congressional testimonies and briefings. He is also a frequent speaker before national and international audiences, and has provided senior policy consultation to most federal departments, state and local governments, associations of government, planning and development organizations, and many foundations.

Education:

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut M. Div. (With Distinctions), 1973 The University of Steubenville, Steubenville, Ohio B.A. (Cum Laude), Honors College-- Political Science/English, 1969

Honors:

2008 State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL) Recognition Award 2007 Franciscan University Alumni Award for Distinguished Public Service 2002 Distinguished Service to Rural Life Award: Rural Sociological Society 2002 USDA Secretary's Honor Award for Superior Service (Jointly to RUPRI) 2001 Friend of Rural Counties Award: Rural Action Caucus, National Association of Counties 1999 Friend and Partner Award: Rural Action Caucus, National Association of Counties 1999 National Rural Development Partnership Recognition Award 1998 Distinguished Service Award - National

Association of Counties 1998 NOSORH Recognition Award - National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health Columbia Devlin Outstanding Educator Award Listed: Who's Who in the World; Who's Who in America; Who's Who in American Education Board of Directors: National Center for Small Communities; Heartland Center for Leadership.

How Does the EU Define “Rural and Agriculture”? **– An Update on the Common Agricultural Policy**

Roger Waite
Editor, AGRA FACTS / AGRA FOCUS
Brussels, Belgium

Having been writing about the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in Brussels for nearly 18 years, Roger is best known as the editor of the two Brussels-based publications on the Common Agricultural Policy, *AGRA FACTS* and *AGRA FOCUS*, which he co-founded in the autumn of 1995. In just over 12 years, *AGRA FACTS* in particular has established a reputation for accuracy, reliability and being first with the news in Brussels – and it is now the most widely read newsletter on the C.A.P. in Brussels, also having subscribers in 35 different countries.

In addition to this, Roger is a regular contributor to *BBC* and *RTE* radio programmes on agricultural policy and EU farm issues in the UK & Ireland, and speaks at Conferences and Seminars on CAP issues several times a year. Next month he will be chairing a Commission Conference in Prague on “EU Agricultural Product Quality policy.” In 2008, he was named as a Journalist fellow of the German Marshall Fund – writing a regular column with comment on CAP issues for FarmPolicy.com.

Originally from London, Roger obtained his degree in European Studies from University in Northern Ireland, and worked in Germany for 2 years before stumbling into journalism, first as an editorial assistant in England and, from 1991, as a Brussels correspondent for *Agra Europe (London)*. Roger and his German wife have four truly European, trilingual children, who can't work out whether they are British, German or Belgian!

What Is the Future of Rural and Agricultural Policy in the United States?

Thomas C. Dorr
Former Under Secretary for Rural Development, USDA
Washington, DC

The Honorable Thomas C. Dorr joined the United States Department of Agriculture in 2001. In 2002 he was appointed by President George W. Bush as Undersecretary for Rural Development. Confirmed by the United States Senate in 2005, he served in this capacity until December of 2008.

While at USDA, Mr. Dorr transitioned an agency once labeled as a “lender of last resort” into a venture capital financing tool for rural America by increasing its investment portfolio from nearly \$50 billion in 2002 to over \$103 billion in FY 2008. His efforts transformed Rural Development into an agency focused on identifying rural opportunities. Under his leadership Rural Development increased annual expenditures in rural America from \$10 billion in FY 2001 to over \$21 billion in FY 2008. At the same time Rural Development reduced its national field structure by 350 field offices and over 1000 employees.

Mr. Dorr served as Chairman of the USDA Energy Council and co-Chair of the federal Biomass Research and Development Board. His leadership resulted in the development of the largest commercial financing effort for renewable energy in the history of the federal government.

As Under Secretary, Mr. Dorr led delegations to meet with European Union and Chinese policy makers, farm groups, and NGO’s to develop a better understanding of the evolving nature of international rural policy development.

Prior to his appointment by President Bush, Mr. Dorr was President and CEO of a family agribusiness in rural Iowa. He served on the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, as a member of the Iowa Board of Regents, and as a member and officer of the Iowa and National Corn Growers Association, as well as a number of state and local civic organizations.

Mr. Dorr currently serves as President of Thomas C. Dorr & Associates and lives with his wife, Ann, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Farmer-to-Farmer Perspective

Tom Buis
President, National Farmers Union
Washington, DC

Tom Buis became National Farmers Union's (NFU) 13th president during the organization's 104th anniversary convention in 2006. He was re-elected in 2008.

Buis has been with the organization since March 1998, previously serving as vice president of government relations. In this capacity, he oversaw the NFU Washington, D.C., government relations office, which advocates the interests of family farmers in Congress and the administration.

Prior to joining NFU, Buis served for nearly 5 years as senior agriculture policy advisor to Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D. In addition, Buis worked for U.S. Rep. Jim Jontz, D-Ind., for nearly 5 years as legislative assistant and legislative director. He was also special assistant for agriculture to U.S. Sen. Birch Bayh, D-Ind.

Before moving to Washington, D.C., in 1987, Buis was a full-time grain and livestock farmer in Putnam and Morgan Counties in West Central Indiana, with brothers Mike and Jeff, who continue to operate the family farm.

Additionally, Buis serves as a member of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP) executive committee. The international organization represents more than 600 million farm families.

Tom and his wife Peggy reside in Gaithersburg, Md., and have two college-age sons, Nicholas and Andrew.

MEASURING AGRICULTURE TRACK

February 26, 3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

Salon II

FARM INCOME OUTLOOK

The session will be organized to include three speakers and a moderator. The moderator will take 5 minutes to introduce the session. The introduction will be followed by three papers with each speaker allotted 15-17 minutes to present his topic and to respond to one or two specific, clarifying questions. At the conclusion of the 3rd presentation, 20+ minutes will remain for questions and/or discussion involving members of the audience, the moderator, and speakers who will form a panel for purposes of taking questions.

**Moderator: James M. Zavrel, Chief, Regional Income Branch, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, DC**

Jim Zavrel is Chief of the Regional Income Branch of the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, where he is responsible for the preparation and analysis of state and county estimates for all of the non-wage components of personal income--including annual estimates of net farm proprietors' income --as well as for the production of quarterly state personal income. Recently, he has overseen efforts to develop advanced estimates of personal income for metropolitan areas as part of the Bureau's initiative to accelerate the release of its regional statistics. He has extensive experience working with agricultural sector economic accounts and has served on numerous federal committees and working groups, including the Advisory Group on content for the Census of Agriculture and the Agricultural Sector Subcommittee of the Economic Classification Policy Committee. He is the recipient of a Department of Commerce Silver Medal for his work on the Nation's regional income accounts.

Jim received his B.A. degree in Economics from the College of William and Mary, and a Masters degree in Managerial Economics from George Mason University,

Farm Finance: The Outlook for Farm Businesses and the U.S. Farm Sector in 2009

Ted Covey

**Farm and Rural Business Branch, Economic Research Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Ted has served as an economist with the Economic Research Service (ERS) since 1989. Since 2004, Ted has been responsible for developing the Economic Research Service's (ERS) farm level value added estimation and forecasting framework. From 2004-2007, Ted served as coordinator and lead author for ERS' annual Agricultural Income and Finance Situation and Outlook Report. In 2008, he assumed the responsibility for estimation of commodity cash receipts for the U.S. farm sector. From 1995-2005, Ted taught economics and finance classes at the USDA Graduate School. Ted has also taught seminars on commodity futures and option markets for the USDA and presented a 2-week seminar of agricultural finance to the Economic University in Sofia, Bulgaria in 1995. Ted has degrees in agricultural economics from the University of Florida (B.S.), Mississippi State University (M.S.), and Texas A&M University (PhD).

Summary: Since 2005, the U.S. farm sector has experienced record highs in value of crop and livestock production, net farm income, net cash income, and value added to the U.S. economy despite considerable variation by region, production specialization, and size of farm operation. In 2009, the U.S. farm sector is expected to incur declines in crop and livestock cash receipts, farm incomes, and in agriculture's overall value added to the U.S. economy. As in previous years, the anticipated economic performances will differ among farms. Net cash income in 2009 is forecast to decline for commercial- and intermediate-sized farm business operations and for all family farms. Large declines are expected in 2009 net cash income for farm businesses specializing in program crops whereas small declines are expected for those specializing in non-program crops. Increases in net cash income in 2009 are expected for those farm businesses specializing in livestock production, with the sole exception being dairy farms.

Co-Authors: John Dillard, Chris McGath, Mitch Morehart, Mike Harris, Bob Williams, Ken Erickson, and Roger Strickland. All are economists with the Farm and Rural Business Branch, Resource and Rural Economics Division, ERS, USDA, Washington D.C.

Household Finance: The Outlook for Farm Household Income, Wealth, and Well-Being

Mary Ahearn

**Farm and Rural Household Branch, Economic Research Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Mary Clare Ahearn is a Senior Economist with the Economic Research Service. Her primary areas of expertise are the economic well-being of farm operators and their households, the structure and the performance of the agricultural sector, and policies affecting structure and well-being. She also has significant experience in designing and managing the various economic surveys, such as the Farm Costs and Returns Survey, Costs of Production Survey, Cropping Practices Survey, and the current Agricultural Resource Management Survey. Mary is currently serving as an Acting Associate Division Director of the Resource and Rural Economy Division. She received a B.S. in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida, M.S. in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology from Pennsylvania State University, and Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from Oregon State University.

Summary: This presentation will move beyond farms to farm households to look at the level and sources of income of households operating different types and sizes of farms. Off-farm income will be decomposed to assess how transfers and retirement sources of income, wages, and self-employment earnings differ among households and farms based on economic size, location, and farm type. The speaker will move beyond income to consider well-being by taking into account farm and non-farm sources of assets and debt. Differences in household income generation and well-being for beginning and established farm operator households will also be considered.

Average farm operator household income in 2008 is forecast to be very similar to the 2007 estimate. This contrasts with a 2006-07 increase in farm operator household income of 6.1 percent. Off-farm income dominates the income sources for the typical farm household. In addition to considering the financial position of the typical farm household, this presentation will consider the financial position of farm households considered to be “socially disadvantaged” by the latest Farm Act. USDA has several programs designed to support socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. The underlying regulations and Acts often provide vague descriptions about the population of interest and their potential needs. The analysis will attempt to improve on the lack of information about this population by drawing on the 2007 Agricultural and Resource Management Survey.

Impacts of a Changing Rural Economy on Farm Businesses and Households

Matthew Fannin

**Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

Matthew Fannin is an Assistant Professor of Community Rural Development in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Louisiana State University. Matthew is an active member of the Louisiana Center for Rural Initiatives, a joint research and extension center of LSU and Southern University which is actively involved in issues such as food and fiber value added job creation, broadband adoption in the rural Delta, physician recruitment and retention in rural areas, and resiliency of agriculture and rural communities from tropical events. Matthew holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Agricultural Economics from Louisiana State University and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Missouri. Since joining LSU at the end of 2003, Matthew has been very active professionally previously serving as the Community Economics Section Chair for the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association and currently serving on the editorial council of the *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*. His research interests include regional economic performance and modeling, healthcare supply in rural areas, interlinkages between the food and fiber system and the rest of the rural economy, and the financial health of rural governments.

Summary: The food and fiber system of the US is highly interwoven with the fabric of rural America. While the food and fiber system has faced long-term challenges such as an aging farmer population, other challenges further up the supply chain are growing threats to the sustainability of the size and scope of the food and fiber system in rural economies. Similarly, the macro-level structure of rural communities has seen major transitions that are creating new constraints on the traditional models of production, processing and distribution of food and fiber in rural America. This presentation evaluates some of these macro trends in rural America as well as highlights case studies of industries from Southern US Agriculture. These case studies evaluate the link between production agriculture and the processing and distribution linkages that can be generalized to the overall U.S. food and fiber economy.

FOOD SECURITY/WORLD MARKETS TRACK

February 26, 3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m.

Salon IV

IMPACT OF VOLATILE PRICES ON WORLD FOOD MARKETS

U.S. and Global Supply Prospects: How Will Growers Respond? This session is designed to describe the key forces underlying the recent volatility in global agricultural commodity prices, and then provide assessments of factors that are likely to shape market responses to market prices the next 2-3 years. A mix of U.S. and international speakers will assess technology and resource constraints, potential U.S. market responses, and potential responses from key foreign markets and suppliers.

**Moderator: Sarahelen “Sally” Thompson, Director, Market and Trade Economics
Division, Economic Research Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Sally Thompson began service as the Director of the Market and Trade Economics Division in September 2008. In addition to her research administration experience, Sally brings to ERS special skills, knowledge, and research experience in agricultural and food marketing, the economic performance of futures markets, the effect of information technologies on agricultural and food markets, and agricultural economic history. She has most recently been Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. Prior to that, she was Professor of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois, and Interim Assistant Director of the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station. Sally received B.A. and M.S. degrees from the University of Minnesota, and a Ph.D. from the Food Research Institute, Stanford University in 1984. From 1998 to 2001, she was co-editor of the journal, *Review of Agricultural Economics*. She has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Agricultural Economics Association, the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association, and the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics. She received the Violet Haas Award for “outstanding efforts on behalf of women” from the Council on the Status of Women at Purdue University in 2007 and the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Department of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota in 2008.

Factors Contributing to the Recent Increase in Food Commodity Prices

Ronald Trostle
Senior Economist, Market and Trade Economics Division,
Economic Research Service, USDA
Washington, DC

Ronald Trostle was a self employed farmer while going to college and graduate school. He has lived and worked in agricultural, rural development, and natural resources related fields in Brazil (2 years), Indonesia (6 years) and the Dominican Republic (2 years). Since then, he has worked for USDA's Economic Research Service, first as the Canadian country analyst, then as leader of a section focusing on Western Europe outlook and policy analysis, and then as chief of various regional and global analysis branches. For the last 5 years, he has been responsible for coordinating the preparation of USDA's 10-year international baseline projections for world agriculture. Trostle has a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Kansas State University.

Summary: This presentation will focus on the factors that have led up to the recent increase, and subsequent decline, in food prices. A historic perspective will be presented with emphasis on what has happened recently to raise concerns about future price movements.

Technology and Resource Constraints Affecting Market Response to Higher Prices

Siwa Msangi
Research Fellow, Environment and Production Technology Division
International Food Policy Research Institute
Washington, DC

Siwa Msangi is a research fellow within the Environment and Production Technology Division, and co-leads IFPRI's research theme on Outlooks and Global Change. He coordinates the global modeling work done with the IMPACT global policy model, focusing on the major socio-economic and bio-physical drivers affecting agricultural production and trade, and their impacts on nutrition, poverty and the environment. Dr. Msangi has a research background in natural resource management, with a focus on surface and groundwater policy, and has interests in quantitative dynamic economics, empirical agricultural production analysis for environmental policy, and the application of dynamic game theory to the study of user behavior in water markets and other natural resource settings. Dr. Msangi joined IFPRI in August 2004 as a post-doctoral fellow.

A Tanzanian national, Siwa received his doctorate in Agricultural Economics from the University of California at Davis, and a Masters in International Development Policy from the Food Policy Research Institute at Stanford University, where he also received an undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering.

Summary: This paper will examine the growth in technology (yield growth), land, and water resource constraints as factors that may limit the response to higher prices. This presentation will also give a longer term look and resource, both land and water, that could limit the ability of the world agricultural sector to expand production to meet increasing demands.

The Boom, The Bust, and Now ...

Pat Westhoff

**Co-Director, Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri**

Pat Westhoff is a co-director of the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) at the University of Missouri–Columbia. Pat coordinates FAPRI analysis of U.S. agricultural and biofuel markets and policies. Each year, FAPRI prepares ten-year baseline projections for U.S. and world agricultural markets, and then uses the baseline as a benchmark to look at the consequences of alternative policies and market conditions. Pat is a native of Manchester, Iowa, and has a B.A. in political science from the University of Iowa, an M.A. in Latin American studies from the University of Texas, and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Iowa State University. Pat began to work with FAPRI at Iowa State University while he was working on his dissertation in the late 1980s. From 1992-1996, Pat served as an economist with the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture Nutrition, and Forestry, working on budget bills, trade legislation, and the 1996 farm bill. Pat joined FAPRI at the University of Missouri in 1996, and has worked on a range of projects in the United States, Europe, Africa, and Latin America. In addition to his responsibilities with FAPRI, Pat is a research associate professor in the department of agricultural economics at the University of Missouri, teaching classes in agricultural policy and markets.

Summary: Almost all of the factors that caused grain and oilseed prices to increase from 2005 to mid 2008 reversed themselves in the final months of 2008, resulting in a sharp reduction in farm commodity prices. In this rapidly changing environment, market projections by USDA, FAPRI, and others remain of great interest, but it is probably more important to understand the factors behind the sharp swings in commodity prices.

Policy Responses to Volatile Prices and Food Security

Wayne Jones
Head, Agri-food Trade and Markets
Directorate for Trade and Agriculture, OECD
Paris, France

For more than 40 years, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has been one of the world's largest and most reliable sources of comparable statistics, and economic and social data. As well as collecting data, OECD monitors trends, analyses and forecasts economic developments and researches social changes or evolving patterns in trade, environment, agriculture, technology, taxation and more. The Organisation provides a setting where governments compare policy experiences, seek answers to common problems, identify good practice and coordinate domestic and international policies. The 30 OECD member countries share expertise and exchanges views with more than 100 other countries and economies, from Brazil, China, and Russia to the least developed countries in Africa.

Wayne's Division is responsible for the annual OECD/FAO medium-term agricultural outlook as well as analysis of related market, trade and related policy issues. Prior to joining the OECD in 1993, he worked for 18 years for Agriculture and Agri-food Canada in various capacities as an economist, and finally as the Director of Strategic Planning within the Ministry's Policy Branch.

Summary: The recent sharp rise in prices of many agricultural commodities led to worldwide concerns about food affordability for the poor and about future food security. There were violent street demonstrations in many developing countries. Immediate policy responses, such as export restrictions, price controls, stockpiling, reduced import tariffs were politically expedient but tended to exacerbate the situation. Addressing price volatility and food security concerns requires a comprehensive and coherent policy agenda at all levels.

CONSERVATION TRACK

February 26, 3:45 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Salons C, D, E

WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT POLLINATORS?

This session will focus upon the worldwide dependence upon pollinators and pollination services for sustainable agricultural production and other agricultural activities (e.g., wildlife habitat enhancement), present pollination concerns, and efforts underway to address these concerns. Presentations from a variety of points of view will include awareness-building information about animals that provide pollination services in addition to other environmental services; their economic, environmental, and human health value; global evidence for concern; and the various organizations and cooperative efforts that are addressing these concerns.

**Moderator: Doug Holy, National Invasive Species Specialist & National Headquarters DC Pollinator Contact
Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Doug Holy is the National Invasive Species Specialist and NHQ DC Pollinator Contact for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and is stationed in the NRCS headquarters in Washington, DC. Doug has served in this position since November 2002 during which time he has been instrumental in drawing more attention to pollinator protection within NRCS and USDA. Doug has been particularly successful in increasing the involvement of NRCS in partnership efforts with other USDA agencies, other Departments, and with non-governmental entities, and he is an active member of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign/Pollinator Partnership and the Colony Collapse Disorder Steering Team. Doug facilitates the USDA Pollinator Protection Committee, which is composed of 11 agencies within USDA, to address pollinator protection from a departmental approach. Doug began his 27 year career with the Federal government in the Dallas, TX (Region 6) office of the U.S. EPA, and joined the Natural Resources Conservation Service in 1989.

**General Overview
U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
Office of U.S. Senate /Invited
Washington, DC**

A forceful advocate for families, children, consumers, the environment, and her State of California, Barbara Boxer became a United States Senator in January 1993 after 10 years of service in the House of Representatives. Elected to a third term in 2004, she received more than 6.9 million votes, the highest total for any Senate candidate in American history.

A national leader on environmental protection, Senator Boxer is the first woman to Chair the U.S. Senate's Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW). On the Committee, she advocates forcefully for clean air and water, with a particular focus on

the fight against global warming. She also Chairs EPW's Subcommittee on Public Sector Solutions to Global Warming, Oversight, and Children's Health Protection.

In addition to her work on the EPW Committee, Senator Boxer has won numerous awards for her efforts to create a cleaner, healthier environment. She authored the amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act ensuring that drinking water standards are set to protect children and other vulnerable populations. She has been a leader in the fight to remove arsenic from drinking water, block oil drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge and along California's coast, stop the use of human subjects in pesticide testing, and revitalize the Superfund by making polluters – not taxpayers – pay to clean up the toxic waste they leave behind.

A champion of quality public education, Senator Boxer wrote landmark legislation establishing the first-ever federal funding for afterschool programs. With her leadership, support for afterschool has risen dramatically. The first federal appropriation for afterschool programs was in fiscal year 1995 – for \$750,000. Over the next eight years, funding increased to reach \$1 billion per year, covering 1.4 million children. She is now pushing for coverage of 3.5 million children by 2007.

A strong proponent of medical research to find cures for diseases, Senator Boxer wrote bipartisan legislation to accelerate America's contribution to combat global HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. As one of the first in Congress to recognize HMO abuses, she authored a Patients' Bill of Rights in 1997 and continues to fight for these much-needed protections and for affordable health care. She wrote a bill to make health insurance tax deductible and another bill to let any American buy into the same health insurance program that members of Congress have. She supports revision of the current prescription drug coverage program to make it accessible through Medicare and the right of all consumers to purchase lower-cost prescription drugs reimported from Canada.

Senator Boxer has worked to preserve the safety net for older Americans. She introduced the 401(k) Pension Protection Act to protect workers' retirement nest eggs by requiring the diversification of 401(k) plans; a modified version of her bill was signed into law as part of the 1997 tax bill. This work set the stage for her active involvement in preserving Social Security.

Senator Boxer has worked to pass targeted tax cuts to help revitalize the economy. She supports a permanent Research and Development tax credit, accelerated depreciation of new business equipment, and a 20 percent tax credit for broadband investments focused on rural and underserved areas. Along with Senator John Ensign (R-NV), she co-authored the bipartisan Invest in the USA Act to reduce the tax on profits earned abroad by U.S. companies if those profits are invested in creating American jobs. In the 11 months following its passage, the Invest in the USA Act was credited with bringing more than \$275 billion in foreign earnings by 500 American companies back to the United States.

Senator Boxer joined colleagues to pass the 1994 Crime Bill, which led to the lowest crime rate in 25 years. She strongly supports a ban on cop-killer bullets and authored legislation to require child safety locks on guns. Her bill to prevent the criminal use of personal information obtained through motor vehicle records was signed into law and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. She also authored the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) while serving in the House and helped steer it through the Senate; it too is now

law. She has authored the Violence Against Children Act, based on the successful VAWA.

In addition to her Chairmanship of the Committee on Environment and Public Works, Senator Boxer also serves on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Commerce Committee, is the Democratic Chief Deputy Whip, and serves on the Democratic Policy Committee's Committee on Oversight and Investigations. She has been married to Stewart Boxer for 45 years. They have two children, a daughter-in-law, and two grandsons.

The Global Pollinator Situation and Potential Environmental Impacts

May R. Berenbaum
Professor and Department Head, Entomology Department
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Urbana, Illinois

May Berenbaum is Swanlund Professor and Head of the Department of Entomology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She graduated from Yale University with a B.S. degree in biology, received her PhD degree in ecology and evolutionary biology from Cornell University, and has been a member of the UIUC faculty since 1980. Her research interests include understanding chemical mediation of interactions between insects and plants at molecular, physiological and molecular levels. She is concerned with the practical application of ecological principles to insect-plant interactions in an agricultural context and has examined impacts of global climate change, pesticides, genetic engineering, and invasive species on natural and agricultural ecosystems. As a member of the National Academy of Sciences, she has served as member and chair of the National Research Council's Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources. In addition, she chaired the NRC study committee on the future of pesticides in agriculture and most recently chaired the NRC study on the status of pollinators in North America.

Summary: Despite the fact that pollination is an ecosystem service fundamental to food production throughout the world, options for delivery of pollination services remain profoundly limited. For over 90 U.S. crops, pollination is provided exclusively or almost exclusively by managed colonies of *Apis mellifera*, the western honey bee. A phenomenon characterized by abrupt disappearances within honey bee hives of a majority of workers, known as colony collapse disorder, resulted in reported losses ranging between 25 and 35% of colonies nationwide in 2006-7 and 2007-8. These losses and the inability to identify a definitive cause have brought long overdue attention to the need for improved understanding of honey bee biology and for innovations in apicultural practices. Over the past two years, intensive efforts have revealed new information that can be applied toward reducing mortality risks. Many of the problems of contemporary U.S. beekeeping are associated with the accidental importation of the parasitic varroa mite, which, in addition to causing direct mortality, is a vector for viral diseases. In the wake of CCD, a viral disease new to the U.S., Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus, was detected, the prevalence of other viral diseases documented, and the presence of new environmental sources for viral acquisition revealed. In addition, *Nosema ceranae*, a microsporidian parasite, has been shown to be far more prevalent than previously suspected. In addition to pathogens, analysis of bees and pollen

revealed extensive contamination by pesticide residues and analysis of beeswax foundation revealed pesticide contamination, primarily by the two miticides licensed for in-hive use, in 100% of samples. Bioassays demonstrating that these two miticides can synergize each other to enhance toxicity suggest an immediate need for alternative approaches for mite control.

Pollination Economics

Scott M. Swinton

**Professor, Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan**

Scott Swinton is a professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics at Michigan State University. His research and teaching cover the economics of agricultural and ecosystem management, technology evaluation, and environmental policy. Scott's research brings economics to systems analysis in close collaboration with biological scientists. His current research focuses on enhancing the provision of ecosystem services from agriculture, including projects with the NSF Long-term Ecological Research agroecological site in Michigan, the DOE Great Lakes Bio-energy Research Center, and the USDA Risk Assessment and Mitigation Program. He was the sole economist on the 2006 National Resource Council panel that prepared the report on the *Status of Pollinators in North America*, and he currently serves on the Science Advisory Board of the Canadian Pollination Network. Scott teaches graduate agricultural production economics and undergraduate ecological economics. He has authored over 50 articles in refereed journals and, he has edited three books and two journal special issues. He is a 2008 Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow and serves on the editorial board of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

Summary: For economic purposes, both animal pollinators and flowering plants can be divided between commercial and native species. Most fruit and vegetable crops are heavily dependent on animal pollination, as is seed production for alfalfa and hybrid canola. The European honeybee is the star commercial pollinator. Its dense colonies are easily transported, enabling beekeepers to deliver large pollination capacity in a timely way to a sequence of crops. Markets for honey and pollination services interact importantly. U.S. pollination fees have been rising as beekeepers struggle to manage honeybee health problems, rising acreage of pollination-dependent crops (especially almond), and honey income declines due to import competition. Bumble bees and alfalfa leafcutter bees meet specialized areas of pollination demand. Despite the commercial value of agricultural pollination, commercial bee stocking rates in crops and habitat management for native pollinators are poorly understood.

Native pollinators have economic value through direct enjoyment of their role and via the genetic diversification they enable. Butterflies and hummingbirds attract tourists, and studies show consumer willingness to pay for protection of selected native pollinators. The genetic diversification of flowering plants that is enabled by pollinators creates a modest option value that future human benefits will accrue from new genetic combinations. Very few studies exist on the economic value of native pollinators.

Present and Future Beekeeping

Gabriele Ludwig
Senior Manager, Global Technical & Regulatory Affairs,
Almond Board of California
Modesto, California

Gabriele Ludwig is Senior Manager of Global Technical & Regulatory Affairs at the Almond Board of California. Gabriele works on environmental and global regulatory issues affecting almond growers in California. She is also responsible for managing the research program of the Environmental Committee of the Almond Board. Prior to working for ABC, she worked for the consulting firm Schramm, Williams & Associates in Washington, DC, on pesticide, food safety, and phyto-sanitary issues for a number of specialty crops. She received her Ph.D. in plant physiology from the University of California-Davis and her B.A. in biology from Wellesley College.

Summary: Almonds are the crop that is inevitably mentioned when honey bees and their role in agriculture is mentioned. Currently, California almonds use nearly 75 percent of the commercial honey bee colonies in the US for pollination during the bloom from mid February to mid March. Thus the health, both economic and biological, of honey bees and almond orchards are tightly entwined. Why are honey bees so important to almonds and what has the economic impact of the recent changes in honey bee health and value of honey meant for the almond growers in California?

Barry Thompson
Thompson Apiaries, Member of the Scientific Committee, American Beekeeping Federation; Board of Directors, Eastern Apicultural Society
Research Collaborator, USDA
Beltsville, Maryland

Barry Thompson is a sideline beekeeper and the owner of Thompson Apiaries that provides pollination services to family-owned orchards in Montgomery County, MD, just north of the District of Columbia. An active member of local, state and national beekeeping organizations, including the American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) the American Honey Producers' Association (AHPA) and the Eastern Apicultural Society (EAS), he serves on the Scientific Committee of the ABF and on the EAS Board of Directors as the representative for Master Beekeepers certified by that organization. A beekeeper since 1955, Barry volunteers as a collaborator at the Bee Research Lab, ARS/ BARC, Beltsville. His research interests include honey bee health, utilization of honey bees for environmental assessment and the honey bee genome. His beekeeping experience includes a three-year contract (2003-2005) with the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) as a Principal in the firm BeeTech LLC. A strong supporter of the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC)/ Pollinator Partnership, Barry currently is co-chairperson of the NAPPC Task Force on Pesticides.

Summary: Beekeeping in America has changed radically in the past 50-60 years. As the country became urbanized, the keeping of honey bees became, on the one hand, a commercial enterprise, and on the other, largely the realm of the hobbyist. One of the greatest changes has been large-scale migratory beekeeping, with hundreds to thousands of honey bee colonies being trucked to distant locations for pollination of specific, targeted crops. Almonds, alone, require that approximately half of the 2.2M honey bee colonies in the country be in California each year for pollination.

For beekeepers, large or small, continuation of their art became increasingly difficult. Bacterial and viral diseases, parasitic tracheal and varroa mites, the increased use of pesticides, and loss of nectar sources have had adverse impacts on U.S. beekeeping. Substitution of high-fructose corn syrup and artificial sweeteners for honey in food products and importation of foreign honey have made it impossible for many beekeepers to stay in business. Today, managed bee colonies in the U.S.A. number approximately 40% of the total kept on 1950.

Since 2006-2007, beekeeping has struggled with Colony Collapse Disorder or CCD, an unusual constellation of signs, including near-emptying of hives of adult, pollinating worker bees. Found now in a majority of states, CCD has had a major impact on commercial honey bee colonies. Its cause remains unproved and prevention or therapy undetermined. CCD clearly demonstrates the fragility of our pollination ecosystem. The "tipping point" for U.S. beekeeping well may have been reached.

There is an immediate need to protect honey bees for pollination and to reassess the place of all pollinators – bats, bees, beetles, birds and butterflies - in our nation and the world. The sequencing of the honey bee genome and studies of social behavior, physiologic responses and nutrition offer opportunities to improve stock and to tailor bees to certain tasks. U.S. beekeeping must develop an industry-wide resiliency, employing a network of

sentinel colonies, periodically assessed for health or the presence of noxious materials. Detection of a threat will elicit identification and appropriate response. Development of a reserve cadre of bees and/ or colonies to offset losses is a key element of such a program.

Unless the country takes a systematic approach to sustainment of honey bees, the \$15-19B annual value of the insect to American agriculture will be lost; and the variety of the American diet diminished by one-third as honey bee-pollinated crops fail to produce.

Global Efforts Underway

Michael Ruggiero
Director, Integrated Taxonomic Information System
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC

Michael Ruggiero is a Senior Science Advisor with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. He is currently working with the Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS) and on regional and global pollinator information projects. He has held positions of Director of ITIS, International Biodiversity Coordinator for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Leader of the National Biological Status and Trends Program of the U.S. Geological Survey, and Chief of the U.S. National Park Service's Wildlife and Vegetation Division. He also worked at the U.S. White House Office of Science and Technology on environmental monitoring and biodiversity issues. Michael has a Ph.D. zoology, specializing in insect ecology and evolution and has published numerous professional and popular papers in insect ecology, biological inventory, and bioinformatics.

Summary: Global Efforts in Pollinator Conservation

Pollination is a critical ecosystem service, provided by insects (mainly bees), that has enormous value to agricultural and natural ecosystems. Several international projects have begun that will build a knowledge base about pollinators, aid in their management and conservation, and build capacity so that the services of pollinators can be properly and optimally utilized. The importance of pollinator to global agriculture and food security, international pollinator projects, and new tools in bioinformatics will be presented and discussed.

USDA Efforts Underway

Kevin Hackett

**ARS Senior National Program Leader, Invasive Insects and Bees, USDA
Washington, DC**

Kevin J. Hackett is Senior National Program Leader for the USDA, Agricultural Research Service, with program responsibility for crop pests and beneficial insects, including pollinators. He is co-chair of the Federal Colony Collapse Disorder Steering Committee. Other major responsibilities include his role as co-chair of the Federal Interagency Committee for Invasive Terrestrial Animals and Pathogens. He is the ARS lead on invasive insects such as the glassy-winged sharpshooter (vector of Pierce's disease of grape). Kevin holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from Rutgers University in Entomology, and a Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in Insect Pathology. Prior to joining the National Program Staff, he worked as Eastern Coordinator for the John Muir Institute for Environmental Studies, followed by 16 years as an insect pathologist for USDA/ARS in Beltsville, where his research focused on spiroplasmas, the smallest bacteria.

Summary: U.S. Efforts Underway to Address Pollinator Decline, Including That Causes by Colony Collapse Disorder – As highlighted by the National Academy of Sciences 2007 report, "Status of Pollinators in North America," pollinators are in decline; this includes both solitary bees, which pollinate many crops and are responsible for natural ecosystem maintenance, as well as social bees such as the honey bee and bumblebee. Solitary bees are threatened by loss of habitat and by introduced pests and diseases. The honey bee, which is responsible for over 90 percent of all crop pollination, is being decimated by colony collapse disorder, a syndrome that has likely resulted from a variety of increasing stresses to hive homeostasis, including pathogens and parasitic mites, pesticides, and the stress of being transported cross-country for early season pollination of almond. Responding to this crisis, Federal agencies have formed the Colony Collapse Disorder Steering Committee, and associated working groups are conducting research to determine the cause of the malady, and its remedies, including better supplemental diets for bee build up, efforts to reduce pesticide exposure, attention to natural forage, improved management of pests and diseases, and additional care in colony transport, as well as development of solitary bees for pollination of some crops.

COMMODITIES TRACK
February 26, 3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m.
Salon III

COMMODITY FUNDS: IMPACT ON PRICE DISCOVERY

**Moderator: Tom Coyle, Chairman, National Grain and Feed Association
Chicago, Illinois**

Thomas Coyle is general manager of Chicago & Illinois River Marketing LLC., Chicago, Ill. He also serves as the current industry Chairman of the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA). He is the 62nd industry leader to serve at the helm of the NGFA, which consists of more than 950 companies that handle approximately 70 percent of the U.S. grain and oilseed crop. NGFA member companies operate grain elevators, commercial feed mills, grain processing plants, integrated livestock and poultry operations and other grain-related businesses. He also serves on the NGFA's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Mr. Coyle previously served two-year terms as first and second vice chairman, respectively. From 1998-2006, he served as chairman of the NGFA's Risk Management Committee, which represents the interests of commercial hedgers and users of the nation's futures markets to offset risk when buying and selling grain, oilseeds and grain products. He also has served as an arbitrator within the NGFA's unique alternative-dispute resolution system.

Chicago & Illinois River Marketing LLC, for which Mr. Coyle serves as general manager, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nidera Holdings B.V. of The Netherlands. In this capacity, he oversees the company's grain origination and marketing, as well as the operations of its two export facilities located in Illinois and Wisconsin, one of which is the largest delivery warehouse for CBOT futures contracts.

Nidera, established in 1920, is a leading international company serving customers in agro and bioenergy markets around the world. It is headquartered in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, with principal subsidiaries located across Europe and the Former Soviet Union, as well as Singapore and the United States. In addition, in Argentina, Nidera operates a network of export grain elevators and processing plants, and is extensively involved in agricultural inputs, such as seed, crop nutrition and crop-protection products.

Mr. Coyle began his grain industry career with the former Continental Grain Co. in 1976, where he eventually became vice president of origination for its North American Grain Division in Chicago. During his career with Continental Grain, he also worked as a facility manager, regional merchandiser, soybean trading manager, regional manager (in Minneapolis, Minn.), assistant general manager (Kansas City, Mo.), and as vice president of marketing and business development.

He is a graduate of DePaul University in Chicago, and received his masters in business administration from The University of Dayton (Ohio).

From an Index/Hedge Fund Perspective Commodities as an Investment - Impact on Futures Markets

Timothy Rudderow
President, Mount Lucas Management Corp.
Princeton, New Jersey

Tim was a co-founder of Mount Lucas in 1986 and is the firm's president and Chief Investment Officer. He has been in the investment business for more than twenty years, beginning in the late 1970s as a grain analyst at Commodities Corporation. He's been involved in the design and management of technical trading systems, including the MLM Index, a benchmark for the returns to speculative trading in futures markets. Since 1996, his activities have focused in the management of a Global Macro hedge fund, with particular responsibility for the commodity component of the fund. Tim holds a B.A. in Mathematics from Rutgers University and an M.B.A. from Drexel University.

About Mount Lucas Management Corporation

Mount Lucas Management Corporation ("MLM") was founded in 1986 to provide alternative asset investments to institutional investors and high net worth individuals. Since its inception, the firm has emphasized the advantages of diversification, liquidity, transparency, and risk control and has developed several innovative and successful investment strategies that incorporate these characteristics.

Summary: Recent years has seen a dramatic increase in the use of futures markets to replicate a basket of long commodities. The attraction of commodities as an investment is the supposed diversification benefits when added to a traditional portfolio. In my view, not only is the presumed attraction suspicious, the negative impact on the historic task of futures markets is profound.

From an Exchange Perspective

Dave Lehman
Director, Commodity Research & Product Development, CME
Group, Global Headquarters
Chicago, Illinois

David Lehman is a Director in the Executive Division of CME Group. David is responsible for managing new product research and development and contract maintenance for the commodity sector. Prior to joining CME Group, Mr. Lehman was Managing Director and Chief Economist at the Chicago Board of Trade from 2005-2007, with responsibility for commodity research, new product development and contract maintenance. From 2003-2005, Mr. Lehman was Managing Director of Commodities at CBOT, with responsibility for new product research and development and marketing and education for commodities. David held various research and marketing positions at the CBOT from 1989 - 2002, and held the position of Industry Economist at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission from 1986-1989. He received bachelors and master's degrees in agricultural and resource economics from the University of Maryland in 1983 and 1985, respectively.

From a CFTC Perspective

**Gregory Kuserk
Deputy Director for Market Surveillance
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Washington, DC**

Greg Kuserk is the Deputy Director for Market Surveillance at the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. The Surveillance Section is responsible for monitoring trader activity in the futures and options markets to prevent manipulation and other forms of market abuse. Mr. Kuserk has been at the CFTC since 1987 and has served in several capacities as a research economist and policy advisor. From 2002 through 2006, Mr. Kuserk served as economics advisor to Commissioner Sharon Brown-Hruska and as Chief of Staff of the CFTC from August 2004 to July 2005.

Mr. Kuserk holds an MS in Agricultural Economics from the University of Delaware and a BBA in Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame.

February 26, 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Salons III & IV

Dinner Speaker
To Be Announced

Friday, February 27, 2009

RURAL AMERICA TRACK
February 27, 8:00 a.m.-10 a.m.
Salons V-VI

**PAYING DIVIDENDS ON INVESTMENTS
IN RURAL AMERICA**

Moderator: Matthew Chase, Executive Director
National Association of Development Organizations
Washington, DC

Matthew Chase has served as the Executive Director of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) and the NADO Research Foundation since October 2003. From March 1997 to August 2000, he served as the association's Director of Legislative Affairs until he was promoted to Deputy Executive Director. Prior to joining NADO, he was the Chief Operating Officer and Membership Services Director of the Professional Managers Association in Washington, DC.

Chase has extensive advocacy experience with federal community, economic and rural development programs, including successful campaigns to reauthorize the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in 1998 and 2004, establish the Delta Regional Authority in the early 2000s and preserve annual funding for core rural development programs under USDA. He remains at the forefront in advancing federal policies to enhance rural transportation planning and services. In addition, he is a regular presenter on the impact of federal budget and appropriations trends on small metropolitan and rural America.

As the chief administrative officer of the NADO Research Foundation, he oversees a diverse set of projects and programs. These programs include the Economic Development Finance Service (EDFS), a subscription-based service providing information, training and networking opportunities for small business development finance professionals; the Rural Brownfields Awareness Project (EPA funded); the Rural Transportation Capacity Building Project (FHWA funded); a new initiative with EPA to promote regional approaches to environmental stewardship and economic development; and a new national center for regional transportation and economic development.

Chase is the author of the NADO publication, *All Politics is Local: A Guide to Grassroots Action*. He is the co-author of numerous publications and research reports, including: *Regional Approaches to Homeland Security Planning and Preparedness* (2005); *State Associations of Regional Councils of Government: Insights into Organizational Structures, Governance Models and Strategic Initiatives* (2005); *eForum Results: The Pulse of Small Town and Rural America* (2004); *GIS Technology: Enhancing Regional Planning and Development* (2004); *Federal-State Regional Commissions: Regional Approaches to Local Economic Development* (2003); and

Connecting to Today's Rural America (1999). In addition, he is a contributor to NADO's highly regarded analysis of the President's annual budget proposal.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Hartwick College in Upstate New York and a master's degree in political management from The George Washington University in Washington, DC. He is a native of the Glens Falls/Lake George region in the foothills of the Adirondacks in Upstate New York. He is a founding member of the National Rural Network, a coalition of more than 50 national associations interested in rural policy, and serves as NADO's liaison to the Congressional Rural Caucus. He has been a member of the American Society of Association Executives and the American League of Lobbyists. He has also served on the Alumni Steering Committee for the Graduate School of Political Management. He currently serves on advisory boards for Purdue University's Center for Regional Development, the New England Transportation Institute and Museum and the Alliance for Public Technology.

Measuring the Economic Impact of Federal Dollars on Rural Economies

Developed to measure economic impact, USDA and the University of Missouri teamed up to create a performance measurement tool that can look at the economic data and say where the Government gets it best bang for the buck.

Thomas Johnson
Program Director, Rural Policy Research Institute, Socio-Economic Benefit
Assessment System, University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri

Dr. Johnson has a joint appointment as the Frank Miller Professor of Agricultural Economics, and professor in the Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is Director of the Community Policy Analysis Center. His areas of expertise include rural economic development, fiscal and economic impact analysis, local government finance, and transportation economics. Dr. Johnson's research includes interdisciplinary projects on issues such bio-energy, land use and transportation. He recently advised the Government of Ukraine on changes to its Agricultural and Rural Development policy, and completed a study of proposed changes to the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy. He is a founding member of the International Comparative Rural Policy Studies Consortium which includes 8 Universities in Europe and North America. Dr. Johnson is a Fellow of the Southern Regional Science Association and 2006 recipient of the Outstanding Contribution through Economics Award of the Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics. He was a co-recipient of the 2007 Secretary of Agriculture's Group Honor Award of Excellence.

Education:

- Bachelor of Science, University of Saskatchewan, 1973
- Master of Science, University of Saskatchewan, 1976
- Ph.D., in Agricultural Economics, Oregon State University, 1979

USDA Rural Development

Bill Hagy

**Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Rural Development, USDA
Washington, DC**

On January 22nd, 2009, deputy administrator of USDA Rural Development's business programs Bill Hagy was asked by Secretary Tom Vilsack to become Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development. In that position, Hagy oversees 6,000 USDA employees in all 50 states, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Western Pacific Territories. He is responsible for all USDA Rural Development utilities, housing, community facilities, business programs, telecommunications, broadband and renewable energy initiatives.

Hagy has received extensive financial management training and is a recipient of former Vice President Gore's National Performance Review Hammer Award for his efforts in streamlining the Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program regulation, which reduced the number of application forms and automated the application process. Hagy was the recipient of the Secretary of Agriculture Honor Award in fiscal years 2003 and 2007 for Superior Service to the Department in the delivery of Business Programs. In addition, Hagy is the recipient of the 2007 National Rural Economic Developers Association President's Award for recognition of his dedication, time, talent and expertise in support of Rural Development.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Engineering from Virginia Tech.

Creating a Model Community in a Regional Environment

The Honorable Timothy Penny

**Former Member of Congress, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation
Owatonna, Minnesota**

Timothy (Tim) Penny was named as Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation's (SMIF) President/CEO April 2007. Penny's extensive background complements many of SMIF's key interests, including the areas of workforce development, early childhood development, and economic development with a focus on bio-ag and bio-medical. Penny sees these areas as having the biggest growth potential for the region and the greatest impact on the future economy in southern Minnesota.

Penny represented Minnesota's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1982-1994. Previously, he was a member of the Minnesota State Senate from 1976-82. Most recently, Penny was a Senior Counselor at Himle Horner, a Twin Cities-based public relations and public affairs firm, and co-chair of the Humphrey Institute Forum at the University of Minnesota.

As a member of the Minnesota Senate, Penny served as vice-chair of the Transportation and Finance committees. Among other issues, Penny's areas of emphasis included student financial aid, rural and rail transportation and regulatory reform. While in Congress, Penny served on the Education and Labor, Agriculture and Veterans' Affairs committees. He chaired the Subcommittee on Veterans' Education and Training and the Foreign Agriculture and Hunger Subcommittee.

Throughout his congressional career, Penny placed an emphasis on budget issues. He chaired the Democratic Budget Group as well as the Porkbusters Coalition. His deficit reduction efforts were recognized by such organizations as the Business Roundtable, Citizens for a Sound Economy, the National Taxpayers union and Citizens Against Government Waste.

Penny has co-authored three books: *Common Cents*; *The 15 Biggest Lies in Politics*; and *Payment Due*. Born and raised in southeastern Minnesota, Penny received his B.A. in political science from Winona State University. Penny has four adult children and resides in Waseca.

Summary: In an increasingly competitive world marketplace, every region must identify and build upon areas of strategic advantage. Here in southern Minnesota, the bio-sciences offer us that edge. What is bio-science?

Bioscience applies biological technology to innovations in medicine, energy and agriculture. Southern Minnesota has long been recognized for its innovative businesses in these very areas. We have the world famous Mayo Clinic, MVTL Laboratories in New Ulm, numerous ethanol plants, and a significant cluster of agriculture-based industries such as Hormel in Austin, Bushel Boy Tomato in Owatonna, Hubbard Milling in Mankato, Malto Meal in Northfield, and Associated Milk Producers in New Ulm.

To grow bio-businesses you also need facilities focused on scientific research in genetics, molecular biology, bio-informatics, renewable energy, bio processing, food ingredients, medical technology, human health technology, and biomaterials. In this regard, too, our southern Minnesota region is well-positioned. Our bio-science research assets include Mayo in Rochester, the Hormel Research Institute in Austin, the Agriculture Utilization and Research Institute and the University of Minnesota's Southern Research Center in Waseca. The research capacity of the region has also benefited from a partnership between computer giant IBM and both Mayo and Hormel.

We already know that through Mayo Medical Ventures, new discoveries are being taken into the market place. As we look ahead, we can expect more and more commercialization opportunities to come out of these regional research labs. We need to capture and keep more of those businesses right here in southern Minnesota.

A proposed bio-research park just north of Rochester – called Elk Run – along with a bio-business office building to be constructed adjacent to the Mayo Clinic also enhance the region's prospects.

On the workforce side of the bio-business equation, we can look to Winona State University's Center for Excellence in Health, three regional Community College campuses, Minnesota State University-Mankato, and a cluster of higher education

facilities in Rochester - including the new downtown campus of the University of Minnesota-Rochester.

All of these assets form the basis for future bio- business growth in our region. Recently, the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation conducted a Bio Industry Marketplace Study to help guide our work in this arena. From this analysis, we know that bio jobs pay about 165 percent of the average sector wage in the United States and that every new bio-business job results in the creation of six additional jobs in related fields. Those statistics alone explain why our Foundation has made bio-business one of our priorities.

Our Foundation is working with regional partners in the following ways:

- Together with area Workforce Investment Boards, the Minnesota Bio-Business Alliance, AgStar and other partners we are creating an asset map to coordinate economic development strategies for the region (including growing bio-businesses and attracting new bio- businesses).
- We are offering our Bio Seed funds to assist entrepreneurs in creating new bio based products.
- We are partnering with area lenders to finance emerging bio-businesses through our gap financing revolving loan fund.
- We are sponsoring a “Growing Bio in southern Minnesota” conference on May 22 in Austin to highlight the region’s bio strength, connect the region’s community leaders, and accelerate the region’s efforts to become a world-class bio-business leader.

The mission of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation is to “invest in the region’s future growth through grants, loans, technical expertise and partnerships.” Dedicating a share of our Foundation’s resources to advance bio-business, we believe, is one of the best ways to assure that future regional economic growth will occur. For more information on the Growing Bio conference or our bio-related resources check out our web site www.smifoundation.org, or call 507-455-3215.

Private Investments in Rural America: Is There an Effective Model?

Bill Crump
Director of Governmental Affairs, Viking Range Corporation
Greenwood, Missouri

Bill Crump was born and reared in Schlater, Mississippi where he resides today with his wife, Jane. Bill and Jane have two sons; Will, 25 and Josh, 22.

Bill attended Delta State University where he served as President of the Student Body during his senior year. He served as an elected official in local politics for 18 years. He was first elected to public office at the age of 19 as a member of the Board of Alderman for his home town of Schlater and later served as Mayor for 16 years. He gained valuable experience at the national level in Washington, DC for 10 years, having served as Chief of Staff for both US Congressman Webb Franklin and Congressman Connie Mack. In addition, Bill served as Deputy to the Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Special Assistant to the United States Secretary of Labor, and worked for the White House Office of Advance providing travel advance for the President and Vice President of the United States.

Bill joined Viking Range in 2002 as Incentive Coordinator where he worked with Viking distributors and dealers from around the country. In 2004 he was named manager of Corporate and Governmental Affairs where he was responsible for coordination between Viking and local, state and federal governments.

Bill was later promoted to Director of Governmental Affairs and Executive Assistant to the President at Viking.

In addition to his duties at Viking, Bill is a former Vice President of Delta Council, President-elect of the Greenwood-Leflore County Chamber of Commerce, a member of Board of Directors of the Greenwood-Leflore Industrial Board and a member of the Executive Committee of the Greenwood-Leflore-Carroll Economic Development Foundation. He serves on the Board of Governors for the Mississippi Economic Council and as a member of the Task Force for the Revitalization of the Delta by appointment of the Lt. Governor of the State of Mississippi. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Better Business Bureau of Mississippi as well as on the Greenwood-Leflore Hospital Foundation Board as Corporate Gifts Co-Chairman. He and his family attend First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood where he serves as an Elder.

Summary: Can a rural community survive without the government? An overview of the very successful Viking Range Corporation in Greenwood, Missouri, and their experience in recruiting skilled workers and creating economic development in a rural region.

ENERGY TRACK

February 27, 8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Salon IV

WIND POWER: WHAT'S IN IT FOR RURAL AMERICA?

The development of wind power not only holds the promise to help reduce the nation's dependence on coal and imported oil, but to bring new jobs and economic development to areas of rural America in sore need of such stimulus. The panelists for this session will discuss wind-power efforts they are involved in, stressing the economic impact wind power development can have for rural America.

**Moderator: Lisa Daniels, Executive Director, Windustry
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

Lisa M. Daniels, Executive Director and founder of Windustry, has been providing wind energy information and technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, elected officials, rural utilities and other interested groups since 1995. Currently, Lisa leads Windustry in contracts with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and as a partner on the Wind Powering America initiative with the U.S. Department of Energy. Lisa recently served on the MN Legislative Electric Energy Advisory Task Force on Community Based Energy Development, and is currently on the Advisory Board for the Renewable Energy Center at St. Francis University in Pennsylvania, and the National Wind Coordinating Committee's Steering Committee. She was recognized in 2004 by the U.S. DOE Wind Powering America program, with the Chicago Regional Office Wind Advocacy Award for regional leadership, creativity, and commitment to wind energy development, and honored again in 2005 for her work with Wind Powering America's Agriculture Outreach Team. Lisa received a B.S. in Business Management from Bentley College in Waltham, Massachusetts. She loves to canoe and kayak, and enjoys horseback riding and Nordic skiing with her family.

Lisa Daniels will begin the session by providing an overview of efforts by her organization, Windustry, which focuses on increasing wind energy benefits for rural communities and promotes more small, farmer and locally owned wind farms. She will also briefly cover the tremendous growth of interest and opportunity that Community Wind presents to the traditional agricultural regions of the United States.

Bargaining for Better Wind Royalties

Grant Stumbough
Coordinator, SE Wyoming, USDA RC&D
Wheatland, Wyoming

Grant Stumbough has become a national leader in the effort to help local landowners organize to ensure they receive fair royalties for wind power generated on their land. Raised on a ranch west of Wheatland, Wyo., Grant graduated from the University of Wyoming with a Bachelors degree in Agri-Business. From 1980 to 2006, he worked for the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, where he was manager of the Natural Resources and Policy Division. He formed and chaired the Wyoming Wind Working Group to promote, facilitate and implement wind energy projects statewide.

Grant developed and managed the Wyoming ag mediation program as well as the Wyoming Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) program. He also organized and chaired the Governor's Carbon Sequestration Advisory Committee.

From 2006 to the present, Mr. Stumbough has been employed by USDA's Natural Resources and Conservation Service as the Southeastern Wyoming Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Coordinator for Albany, Platte, Converse, Goshen and Laramie Counties. He recently organized 11 wind energy associations in Southeastern Wyoming and developed a carbon credit-trading program for Southeastern Wyoming. Grant also organized a committee to promote additional power transmission lines in the region

Summary: Rural landowners in some areas are joining forces in cooperative-type associations to create land blocks needed for wind farm development, then bargaining for better royalty rates for their members. *The New York Times* recently called Grant Stumbough the "godfather" of such landowner associations. He will discuss his efforts to help form these landowner associations in Wyoming.

Wind & Wilderness

Meera Kohler
President/CEO, Alaska Village Electric Cooperative
Anchorage, Alaska

Meera Kohler is the president and CEO of Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC), a nonprofit utility serving more than 7,500 consumers in 53 villages that are home to more than 40 percent of Alaska's village population. Ms. Kohler has been a resident of Alaska since 1976 and her career in the electric utility business spans 30 years, mostly in rural Alaska. She has been the chief executive officer of three Alaskan utilities and has been at AVEC since 2000.

Ms. Kohler has a Bachelor's degree in economics and a Master's degree in business administration, both from the University of Delhi, India. She is married and has two grown sons and one exquisite granddaughter who is 4 months old.

Summary: Faced by the challenges of providing electricity in a harsh physical and economic environment, the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative is building hybrid wind/diesel generating facilities in some of the isolated Alaska Native villages it serves. Kohler will discuss the importance of these projects, and the difficulties involved in building and servicing infrastructure in communities separated, in many cases, by hundreds of miles of wilderness.

How Wind Power Benefits Consumer Owners of Rural Electric Co-ops

Ron Rebenitsch
Manager of Alternative Technologies, Basin Electric Co-op
Bismarck, North Dakota

Ron Rebenitsch is manager of Alternative Technologies at Basin Electric Cooperative and is responsible for Basin's green and renewable green resources. His primary responsibilities include wind energy and distributed energy resources, such as recovered waste heat generation. He also manages the administration and marketing of the renewable energy credits (Green Tags) from Basin Electric's green & renewable energy resources.

As project manager and vice-president for the Basin Electric PrairieWinds subsidiaries, Ron is developing 120 MW of wind projects in North Dakota, and a 150 MW wind project in South Dakota. These projects will supplement Basin's existing 136 MW of wind resources, which consist of Basin-owned projects and power purchases.

Ron is on the board of directors of the Utility Wind Integration Group, a national association researching the issues related to integrating wind energy into the power grid. He also chairs the Renewable & Distributed Energy Group for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Cooperative Research Network, which directs research funds to developing energy technologies.

Ron has a civil engineering degree from North Dakota State University and masters of business degree (MBA) from the University of North Dakota. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the states of North Dakota, Colorado and Wyoming.

Summary: Rural electric cooperatives (RECs) have sometimes been criticized for not taking the lead in developing wind energy. However, many cooperatives are making substantial progress in developing renewable resources. Since 2001, Basin Electric Cooperative has added 136 megawatts of wind energy to its energy portfolio and is now adding another 320 MW, for a total of 456 MW. Ron Rebenitsch will discuss how such projects benefit the cooperatives' rural consumer-owners. He will also provide an overview of the recent U.S. Dept. of Energy study on the potential to generate 20 percent of the U.S. electricity supply from wind by 2030.

FOOD SAFETY TRACK

February 27, 8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Salon I

IMPORTED FOOD SAFETY AND FOOD DEFENSE

This session will include a presentation on the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) system of "equivalence" for imported meat, poultry, and egg products; and FSIS actions in response to recommendations issued by the President's Import Safety Working Group will be discussed. In addition, the session will include a discussion of the new FSIS regulatory authority to inspect domestic and imported catfish. Finally, the session will explain FSIS port-of-entry activities, such as how FSIS prevents and responds to smuggling and illegal imports, as well as intentional and unintentional contamination of the food supply.

**Moderator: Rob Williams, Agriculture-Veterinary Counsellor, Australian Embassy
Washington, DC**

Dr. Rob Williams was appointed Counsellor (Agriculture) in Washington in June 2006. Dr. Williams is a veterinarian, having a Masters in Veterinary Public Health Management in addition to Bachelor of Science degree. Rob spent a number of years in private veterinary practice, and worked in the NSW Government animal health system as a district veterinarian on the South Coast.

Dr. Williams has experience working in the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service assisting with the importation of biological goods including both veterinary products and human foods. In this role Dr. Williams had significant input into operational policy on issues such as the importation of products during the 2001 Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in the United Kingdom. Dr. Williams recently worked in the Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer in the Disease Preparedness and International section and was responsible for case management obligations for the reporting of Emergency Animal Disease events and animal health status in general, primarily to the World Organization for Animal Health. Through his work in the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Dr. Williams developed and maintained international relationships on animal health issues with quadrilateral country members (United States of America, Canada, New Zealand and Australia) and other countries including Indonesia and Malaysia.

Dr. Williams is responsible for animal and public health issues related to the trade in animals and animal products from Australia to the United States of America, Canada and Mexico.

FSIS Import Safety Activities

Ronald K. Jones

**Assistant Administrator for the Office of International Affairs
Office of Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Dr. Jones is currently the Assistant Administrator for the Office of International Affairs for the Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA. Previously, he worked in many other specialized areas within USDA. He held the position of Acting Assistant Administrator for the Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) Office of International Affairs, providing leadership in international food safety activities related to oversight of equivalency, auditing, and import inspection.

From 2007-2008, Dr. Jones was an Executive Associate for Regulatory Operations in FSIS' Office of Field Operations. He participated in planning and formulating policies related to the Agency's overall farm-to-table food safety strategy and oversight of FSIS' field management structure.

Dr. Jones had 23 years of field experience prior to relocating to Washington, D.C., in 2007. He had served as the District Manager of FSIS' Denver, Colorado, District office since June 1997. During that 10-year period, he provided regulatory oversight to approximately 580 federally inspected facilities located in 10 States, American Samoa, Saipan, and Guam.

Education & Training

- B.S. Animal Science; Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Tuskegee Institute, 1983.
- Undergraduate Work in Biology, Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri and Kansas University, Lawrence, Kansas, 1976-1979.
- Project Management, Western Management Development Center, October 2002.
- Leadership for a Democratic Society, Federal Executive Institute, 1999.
- Executive Development Seminar, Western Management Development Center, 1998.
- Shaker Heights High School, Shaker Heights, Ohio, 1976

Honors & Awards

- Administrator's Award for Excellence 2006, 2005, 2004
- BSE Effort Award 2003
- Field Operations Merit Award for Managerial Excellence, 2002
- Group Honor Award for Excellence, 2000
- Management Excellence Award, 1993

Summary: Discussion will focus on FSIS activities including system of equivalence for meat, poultry, and egg products inspection; a short comparison to the Food and Drug Administration; and the President's Import Safety Working Group.

Catfish Inspection

William P. Milton, Jr.
Assistant Administrator, Office of Catfish Inspection Programs
Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA
Washington, DC

William (Billy) P. Milton, Jr., serves as the Assistant Administrator for USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), Office of Catfish Inspection Programs (OCIP). In this position, Billy serves as a member of the Administrator's top policy staff, participates fully with the Administrator, Deputy Administrator, and other top staff officials in establishing and effecting broad policies and objectives for the Agency.

As Assistant Administrator for OCIP, Billy provides executive leadership in establishing, implementing, and overseeing a nationwide program of regulatory oversight and conduct of inspection activities and enforcement of catfish inspection. From 2004-2008, Billy was the Assistant Administrator for FSIS' Office of Management (OM), responsible for developing, directing, and coordinating administrative management activities for the Agency concerning procurement; budget formulation, presentation, and execution; maintenance of accounting systems, human resources management; strategic planning; mediation and work/life services; labor-management relations; litigation; safety and health, equal employment opportunity; civil rights; and human capital planning.

Billy has served FSIS in various capacities including; Acting Associate Deputy Administrator for OM and Director of the Labor and Employee Relations Division.

Prior to joining FSIS in June, 2000, Billy worked with national labor organizations representing Federal sector employees. During the fifteen years in labor organizations, he served as a National Representative, Deputy Director of Membership and Organization, and Director, for Representation and Education. Prior to his work with labor, Billy worked for the U.S. Customs Service.

Billy received a B.S degree in Criminal Justice from Northeastern University where he also attended graduate school. He is married to Valerie Waller-Milton and they, with their children, reside in Mitchellville, Maryland.

Summary: A brief discussion of the new authority to inspect catfish – for example, importers will need to establish “equivalent” systems under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (we might be able to discuss transition requirements for foreign trading partners that currently import catfish, since the proposed rule will be published by October 1, 2008; but publication of the final rule is not required until December 18, 2009).

FSIS Food Defense Activities

Erin Dreyling

**Director of the Data Analysis and Integration Group, Office of Data
Integration and Food Protection, Food Safety and Inspection Service
USDA
Washington, DC**

Dr. Erin Dreyling is the Director of the Data Analysis and Integration Group in the Office of Food Defense and Emergency Response at the U.S. Food Safety Inspection Service. She is the project lead for the Agency's development of data-driven improvements for processing and slaughter inspection. In addition, she is leading the development of FSIS' Predictive Analytics component of its new information infrastructure. Predictive Analytics will improve the Agency's ability to more effectively use data to inform policy development and to predict and prevent public health risks.

Dr. Dreyling holds a Ph.D. in public health and certificate in risk assessment from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She also received a BA in biology and psychology from Wellesley College. Dr. Dreyling is a member of the Delta Omega Honors Society for Public Health.

Summary: FSIS Food Defense Activities, including smuggling and illegal imports, prevention of intentional and unintentional contamination of the food supply; port-of-entry activities; and collaboration with other USDA, Federal, State, and local public health partners will be discussed.

CONSERVATION TRACK

February 27, 8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Salon II

MARKETS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: CARBON & GREENHOUSE GASES

What is a greenhouse gas emissions trading system and why should agriculture care? How might a cap-and-trade system work in the United States? What is a carbon footprint and how can farmers make a smaller one? The session will focus on the status of current voluntary markets, options under consideration on the Hill and elsewhere, issues that farmers and land managers need to consider when evaluating the potential for GHG environmental services markets, and a discussion of the 2009 outlook.

**Moderator: William Hohenstein, Director, Office of Global Climate Change, USDA
Washington, DC**

Mr. Hohenstein serves as the Director of the Global Change Program Office (GCPO), and is responsible for coordinating global change research and program activities for the Department. The Global Change Program Office provides coordination and policy development support for the Department's global change program. It serves as the focal point for all support to the Secretary of Agriculture on the causes and consequences of climate change, as well as strategies for addressing climate change. Before becoming the Director of USDA's Global Change Program Office, Mr. Hohenstein served as a Division Director in EPA's National Center for Environmental Economics. Mr. Hohenstein serves on United States delegations to international negotiations on climate change. He has also served as a United States representative to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Mr. Hohenstein has a B.S. in Natural Resource Management from Cook College, Rutgers University and a M.E.M. in Resource Economics from Duke University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Opportunities for Farm and Forest Within the Chicago Climate Exchange and Lessons Learned From Experiences in Agriculture and the Carbon Markets

**Mike Walsh
Chicago Climate Exchange, Inc.
Chicago, Illinois**

Michael J. Walsh is an Executive Vice President of Chicago Climate Exchange, Inc., a self-regulatory exchange that administers a voluntary, legally binding greenhouse gas reduction and trading program for North America. CCX's affiliated companies European Climate Exchange and Chicago Climate Futures Exchange host markets for futures products based on European Union carbon dioxide emission allowances and U.S. sulfur dioxide emission allowances. Walsh also serves on the Board of Directors of the Montreal Climate Exchange.

In his prior position with Environmental Financial Products LLC (the predecessor company to CCX), Mr. Walsh arranged several international carbon credit transactions, developed rules for efficient international carbon trading and designed sustainable forestry and carbon funds. He also served as lead writer for a series of five technical papers on international emissions trading prepared for the Government of Canada. He has been a keynote speaker on environmental markets in over a dozen countries.

Mr. Walsh previously served as a Senior Economist with the Chicago Board of Trade where he directed the CBOT annual auctions of sulfur dioxide emission allowances conducted on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Walsh has also served as a Financial Economist in the Office of Tax Policy in the U.S. Department of the Treasury and has been on the faculties of the University of Notre Dame and the Illinois Institute of Technology. He has been a consultant to the U.S. Agency for International Development on emissions trading in central Europe and served on the Florida Air Emissions Trading Commission. Mr. Walsh holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Michigan State University.

Topic To Be Announced

Tim Profeta

**Director, Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions; Senior Associate
Dean; Environmental Sciences & Policy
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina**

Tim Profeta came to Duke on June 1, 2005, as founding director of the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions. Prior to his arrival, he served as Counsel for the Environment to Senator Joseph Lieberman. As Lieberman's counsel, Profeta was a principal architect of the Lieberman-McCain Climate Stewardship Act of 2003. He also represented Lieberman in legislative negotiations pertaining to environmental and energy issues, as well as coordinating the senator's energy and environmental portfolio during his runs for national office. Profeta has served as a visiting lecturer at Duke Law School, where he taught a weekly seminar on the evolution of environmental law and the Endangered Species Act. Before joining Lieberman's staff, he was a law clerk for Judge Paul L. Friedman, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Education:

BA, Yale University

JD, Duke University School of Law

MEM, Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences, Duke University

Primary Area of Expertise: environmental law

Secondary Area of Expertise: environmental policy

Obstacles and Opportunities for Farmers and Ranchers in a Federal Cap and Trade System

Richard K. Krause
Farm Bureau, Senior Director, Congressional Relations
American Farm Bureau Federation
Washington, DC

Richard L. Krause is Senior Director for Congressional Relations in the Public Policy team in Washington, D.C. He joined the American Farm Bureau Federation as Assistant Legal Counsel in August 1980.

Rick handles climate change issues, endangered species issues, federal lands issues, such as livestock grazing rights, land use/property rights, invasive species; water quantity and international water issues; and ecosystem management.

Born in Evanston, Illinois, and raised in Wilmette, Illinois, he attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., receiving his B.A. degree in 1968. After graduation from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor with a J.D. degree, he went into private law practice in Des Moines, Iowa, before accepting the position of legislative attorney with the American Medical Association. From there, he came to the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Summary: Speaker will focus on offset opportunities in a cap and trade system, obstacles to full agricultural recognition, and permanence, etc.

COMMODITIES TRACK

February 27, 8:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m.

Salon III

GRAINS & OILSEEDS OUTLOOK

**Moderator: Kay Simmons, National Program Leader,
Plant Genetics & Grain Crops, Agricultural Research Service, USDA
Beltsville, Maryland**

Kay Walker Simmons is National Program Leader for Plant Genetics and Grain Crops, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS). Dr. Simmons leads ARS National Programs for Plant Biological and Molecular Processes (NP302) and Plant Genetic Resources, Genomics, and Genetic Improvement (NP301), and represents ARS on the USDA Biotechnology Coordinating Committee, Borlaug Global Rust Initiative, and National Plant Breeding Coordinating Committee.

Dr. Simmons has authored over 65 publications in plant molecular biology and seed biology, received the Arthur Flemming Award (Science) for Outstanding Service in the Federal Government (1997) and was Scientist of the Year, USDA-ARS Pacific West Area (1999). Prior to joining the National Program Staff in 2000, Dr. Simmons was Research Leader, Wheat Genetics, Quality, Physiology and Disease Research Unit, Pullman, WA.

Grains & Oilseeds Outlook

**William Chambers
Economist, Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC**

Bill Chambers is an agricultural economist and commodity analyst with FSA's Economic and Policy Analysis Staff (EPAS). He is a member of the Rice ICEC committee that releases USDA's short and long term commodity supply and demand estimates. Bill is also a policy analyst especially in managing the rice marketing loan program. He is a key person in determining and releasing the rice Announced World Price (AWP) and has taken a leading role in making the AWP and rice loan rate calculations more market oriented. Prior to joining FSA, Bill worked at the Economic Research Service where he focused first on rice and then on feed grains.

Summary: The 2008 grain and oilseed markets were among the most volatile on record. A price boom in the early part of the year led to widespread concerns about food security and food riots. However, a correction later in the year saw prices fall sharply. This presentation will discuss the causes and implications of grain and oilseed price volatility over the past 12 months. It will include an overview of USDA's supply and demand estimates for grains and oilseeds.

Risk Management Challenges in a Changing Crop Nutrient Industry

Keith Swanson

Manager, Crop Nutrient Dealer Risk Management Services, CHS Inc.

St. Paul, Minnesota

Keith Swanson has more than 30 years of commodity and derivative markets trading and fundamental and technical analysis market experience. He is manager, dealer risk management services for CHS crop nutrients, a position he has held since September, 2007.

Prior to joining CHS crop nutrients, Swanson was a petroleum account broker for Country Hedging, Inc. He also owned Swanson Futures, Inc., at the Minneapolis Grain Exchange, and worked as a Merrill Lynch Futures Financial Consultant and as a grain buyer at General Mills.

Swanson holds Series 3 and 30 commodity licenses with the National Futures Association.

Swanson grew up on the east side of St. Paul and earned a bachelor's of science degree in business administration from the University of Minnesota.

Why Genomics Are Important to Maintain Competitiveness of U.S. Soybeans

Ed Ready
Production Program Manager, United Soybean Board
St. Louis, Missouri

Ed Ready is the Production Program Manager for the United Soybean Board (USB). USB is made up of 68 farmer-directors who oversee the investments of the soybean checkoff on behalf of all U.S. soybean farmers. Ed holds a BS degree in Agronomy from Clemson University, a MS degree in Crop Science from North Carolina State University, and a Ph.D. in Agronomy (weed science) from the University of Illinois. Prior to joining the staff of the United Soybean Board in 2002, he spent a career in the crop protection industry with ICI/Zeneca/Syngenta, where he held positions in Research, Technical Services, Environmental Affairs, and Government Relations. The USB Production Program funds research projects, primarily with scientists from Land Grant Universities and USDA-ARS to increase farmer profitability by increasing yield and improving composition to meet the needs of the end users better.

Summary: The purpose of the United Soybean Board (USB) is to invest checkoff funds to benefit US soybean producers. To help achieve this, the production research program supports research to protect existing yield potential from loss due to biological and environmental stresses such as soybean cyst nematodes (SCN), soybean aphids, drought, and flooding. It also includes seeking ways to increase the genetic yield potential of soybeans. In addition to addressing yield, the production research program supports research to improve soybean composition to meet the needs of end users better. This includes increasing protein levels to ensure that soybeans consistently produce high-pro soybean meal, increasing oleic acid and decreasing linolenic acid in soybean oil to reduce or eliminate the need for partial hydrogenation and resulting trans fats, reducing phytate phosphorous and increasing metabolizable sugars. All of these changes involve modification of the genetics of soybeans. Therefore, USB has provided several million dollars to support development of structural and functional genomics tools to allow soybean breeders to produce new varieties more quickly and efficiently.

RURAL AMERICA TRACK
February 27, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Salons V-VI

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: SARE'S 20 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRESS

Through more than 3,700 competitive grants awarded over the past 20 years, SARE has made a real difference to the lives of farmers, ranchers, and to the agricultural community nationwide. This session will present highlights of SARE's experience, and a vision for the next 20 years from farmers and others who have participated and benefitted from the program.

Moderator: Jill S. Auburn, SARE Director, Sustainable Agriculture, Economic and Community Systems Unit, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA; Washington, DC

Jill Shore Auburn is Division Chief, Agricultural Systems and Technology, in USDA's Research, Education and Extension Office (REEO), a new office established by the 2008 farm bill to coordinate science activities of the USDA. She is on detail to REEO from her position as national program leader for sustainable agriculture at the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), the agency of USDA that provides funding and leadership to research, education and extension in partnership with land-grant universities and other partners. Her main responsibility at CSREES was to serve as national director of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program, which supports research, education and professional development in sustainable agriculture nationwide through grants and information from four regions plus a national communications and outreach office. Before joining USDA in 1998 she was associate director of the University of California's statewide Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, and also regional training coordinator for the Western Region of the USDA-SARE program. In 2002 she spent six months working on the tax staff of the Senate Finance Committee through the Legis Fellows program of the Brookings Institution. Her academic background is in agricultural systems analysis and ecology, with undergraduate work in animal behavior and psychology (Ph.D. from UC Davis, M.A. and B.A. from Miami University, Ohio).

Crop Diversity on a 4,400-Acre Grain Farm in Washington State

Karl Kupers
Marketing Manager, Shepherd's Grain
Harrington, Washington

Karl Kupers is one of the most outspoken advocates for sustainable farming practices, and he speaks from extensive field and business experience. Once a traditional grain farmer, he switched to an innovative and profitable “systems” approach on his grain farm, which included diversifying crops, no-till and direct marketing. He began small, using a SARE grant in 1996 to test alternative crops. He also pioneered and refined “direct-seeding,” placing seeds into the soil with a drill, which leaves the soil untilled. After he transitioned his entire farm to a no-till, diversified system - and added a profitable direct marketing business to the mix - he turned his attention to marketing full-time. Today, Karl is marketing director of Shepherd's Grain, a coop he helped form. It currently has 20 Pacific Northwest no-till farmers - all Food Alliance certified. Karl is also chairman of Western SARE's administrative council and a former president of the Pacific Northwest Direct Seed Association.

Summary: My presentation will focus on my experience of a WSARE farmer research grant I received in 1996 for \$4,000 and have leveraged that into a marketing business today. Today that company, Shepherd's Grain, is marketing over \$6mm in sales of products raised on 33 farms within the states of Oregon, Idaho, and Washington. All of the raw products are produced in a sustainable production system that WSARE grant helped me understand. SARE creates tremendous positive change towards a more sustainable agriculture with very limited dollars which is no more than budget dust. U.S. agriculture is critical to societies' health and well being and can justify greater societal support if directed at sustainable research.

How an Oklahoma Cashmere-Goat Farmer Reduced Risk and Increased Income

Claud Evans
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
Okemah, Oklahoma

Owner - Practitioner—January, 1983 to Present - Okfuskee County Veterinary Clinic
Okemah, Oklahoma

Ralston Purina Company
St. Louis, Missouri
March, 1979 to December, 1982

- Manager, Tuna Production, Chicken of the Sea
Division, San Diego, California
March, 1979 to April, 1980 - Manager, Pet Food Operations, Chicken of the Sea
Division, San Diego, California
March, 1978 to March, 1979

- Manager, Quality Assurance Department, Davenport, Iowa Consumer Products Plant
May, 1977 to March, 1978 - Management
Development Program, Davenport, Iowa
Consumer Products Plant

January, 1972 to May, 1977 -Veterinarian, Pet Nutrition and Care Research, covering
areas of responsibility from health care and research to assisting the Marketing groups.

July, 1971 to January, 1972 - Poultry Pathologist in the Veterinary Services Department

Salesman & Student Manager 1965-1970 Southwestern Company, Nashville, Tennessee
Member, Ralston Purina Company, Management Advisory Board, 1974-1975

Publications:

---*Intravascular Hemolysis Associated With Hepatic Failure In The Horse*, by B. C. Tennant, D.V.M., C. D. Evans, D.V.M., J. J. Kaneko, D.V.M., and O. W. Schalme, D.V.M., "California Veterinarian", 27:15-18, 1972. This paper was also presented at the American Veterinary Medical Association annual convention in New Orleans, Louisiana in July, 1972 by Dr. B. C. Tennant.

---*Equine Hepatic Insufficiency*, by B. C. Tennant, D.V.M., C.D. Evans, D.V.M., L.W. Schwartz, D.V.M., D. H. Gribble, D.V.M., Ph.D., and J. J. Kaneko, D.V.M., Ph.D., "Veterinary Clinics of North America", Vol. 3, No. 2, May, 1973.

---*Up Date On Canine Hip Dysplasia*, by C. D. Evans, D.V.M., "Purina Kennel News", Vol. 3, 1975.

---*Normal Blood Values For Dogs*, by Richard D. Kealy, M.S., Ph.D., and Claud D. Evans, D.V.M., "Purina Kennel News", Vol 1, 1976.

---*Internal Parasites of Dogs*, by Claud D. Evans, D.V.M., "Purina Kennel News", Vol. 4, 1976.

---*Practical Contrast Mediums Used In Radio-graphic Examination of the Urogenital System*, presented at the AVMA annual convention in Las Vegas, Nevada in June, 1970. The work for this paper was done while I was a student in veterinary medicine at Tuskegee Institute.

---*Vaginal Cytology Of The Dog*, presented at the Ralston Purina Company Professional Marketing Services annual meeting at Keystone, Colorado, September, 1976.

Education:

Oklahoma State University 1961-1966
Stillwater, Oklahoma B. S., Biochemistry
Tuskegee Institute 1966-1970
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

Civic Organizations:

Oklahoma State University and A & M Colleges Board of Regents (Former Member – 16 yrs. and Past Chairman) Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Southern Region
(Former Member & Past Chair – Administrative Council)
Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET)
Southern Region (current member and former chair)
National CARET Executive Committee (current member and past member of Budget and Advocacy Committee)
Okemah Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture (Past President and current member of Board of Directors) Boley Public Schools Foundation for Academic Excellence
Okfuskee County Fair Board (Former Member)
St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Chairman, Administrative Council
University Center at Tulsa Board of Trustees (Former Member)
Lions Club International (President of Okemah Chapter)
Oklahoma State University Alumni Association Board of Directors (Former Member)
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity (Past President of Boley Alumni Chapter)

Professional Organizations:

American Veterinary Medical Association
Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association
Oklahoma Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (Former Member)

Veterinary Licenses: States of California, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Oklahoma; and Certified Identity Theft Risk Management Specialist

Dr. Evans is married to his wife Elayne and has two children, Gregory and Kelli.

Summary: With his full-time work as a veterinarian and other off-farm responsibilities, Claud Evans has limited time to devote to farm work. By implementing low-cost strategies that rely on natural systems rather than purchased inputs Evans has been able to manage his cashmere goat operation successfully part time. In 1998, with support from a SARE producer grant, he compared combing and shearing techniques for obtaining cashmere fiber, and found that combing yielded a greater percentage of cashmere and reduced the risk of shear shock. Claud later was elected to Southern SARE's administrative council, and served two terms as chair.

A Sustainable Approach to Working with Vegetable Farmers

Jude Boucher

**Agricultural Educator, University of Connecticut, Cooperative Extension
Vernon, Connecticut**

Jude Boucher is an Extension Educator for the University of Connecticut and works conducting Sustainable Ag and Integrated Pest Management outreach programs on the diversified commercial vegetable farms throughout Connecticut and New England. Jude received his undergraduate degree in Entomology at the University of New Hampshire, an M.S. in Entomology from Virginia Tech, and his Ph.D. in Horticulture from the University of Connecticut. Jude has 25 years of experience working with farmers, and recently has led a successful SARE Research & Education project developing a perimeter trap crop approach to pest management on cucurbit crops. He currently has a Partnership Grant with several farmers working together to educate New England vegetable growers about the virtues of deep zone-tillage, also known as vertical tillage.

Summary: I have found SARE's support and unique educational sessions to be an invaluable part of my own growth as an Extension Educator, and it has allowed me to work with growers in areas where funding was not available from other sources. In 2001, I attended a SARE Professional Development Workshop on using a whole-farm systems approach to pest management, led by the former Northeast Director of SARE, Fred Magdoff. This workshop expanded my vision of pest management from examining minutia to stepping back and first asking how the whole system functions. Field observations, farmer suggestions, and a pattern in the entomological literature led us to a system we call Perimeter Trap Cropping (PTC). PTC involves planting a more attractive trap crop so that it completely encircles and protects the main cash crop like fortress walls, especially when reinforced with perimeter sprays, so that the trap crop functions like a poisoned fence. Most growers who tried the system on cucurbit crops and peppers found that PTC improved pest control, substantially reduced pesticide use, saved time and money, and was simpler to use than their conventional pest management program. More recently, we have been focusing on a form of reduced-tillage known as deep zone-tillage to help reverse the soil degradation caused by 300 years of farming in CT. Deep zone-tillage can also prevent soil compaction and erosion, reduce the time and expense involved in field preparation and lead to healthier plants, higher yields and improved fruit quality. The growers have been very appreciative of learning some new techniques, as evidenced by their willingness to join in the educational process as speakers, grant partners, steering committee members, and as hosts of twilight meetings and research plots.

SARE's Young New Voices

Shoshanah Inwood
Research Scientist, Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Dr. Shoshanah Inwood, Ohio State University research scientist, will present her winning entry to SARE's "New Voices" competition, which asked applicants to address how truly sustainable production and marketing systems would improve profitability, stewardship of the land and water, and quality of life for farmers, ranchers and their communities. In 2000, Dr. Shoshanah co-founded Silver Tale Organic Farm in northeastern Ohio and she served on the board of the Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association for 4 years. Recently having earned a PhD in Rural Sociology at Ohio State University, her dissertation work examined farm succession at the rural-urban interface and was funded by SARE.

ENERGY TRACK

February 27, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Salon IV

IMPLEMENTING THE RENEWABLE FUELS STANDARDS

A ruling is expected next spring on the Renewable Fuels Standards of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA). The renewable fuels standard that is part of EISA envisions that new ethanol and cellulosic ethanol and biodiesel production would be required to meet green house gas reduction targets. These targets will substantially improve the environmental sustainability of biofuels production and use. Since EPA, with DOE and USDA, is currently developing guidelines for implementation of the Renewable Fuels Standard of EISA, it is important that agricultural and biofuels interests become aware of the implementation process and its likely impact on the industry. This discussion brings together experts from government, academe, and finance to discuss the implementation process and its effect on green house gas emissions, biofuels production and use, and the financing of biofuels facilities.

**Moderator: Roger Conway, Director of the Office of Energy Policy and New Uses
Office of the Chief Economist, USDA
Washington, DC**

Roger is a native of Virginia and received his B.A. degree in Economics at The George Washington University, his M.A. in Economics at George Mason University, and his Ph.D. in Economics at The George Washington University.

He joined the Economic Research Service (ERS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in 1978 as an Agricultural Economist specializing in commodity modeling.

In 1985, Roger spent a year with the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce, as an Econometrician before returning to ERS to become Section Leader of the Productivity and Public Policy Section in the Resources and Technology Division. In that capacity, Roger led successful program initiatives to redesign the current USDA productivity indices, introduce important recent advances in agricultural production economics into the staff analysis and policy making process, and evaluate sustainable agricultural production practices. For his efforts with ERS, Roger has received four ERS Administrator Special Merit Awards.

Roger has shown a variety of research interests duly indicated by the breadth of topics covered by his numerous publications and professional presentations. Topics have included global warming, international trade, commodity policy, agricultural investment and macroeconomic policy among others. Roger has published well over 20 refereed journal articles in such journals as the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, and *Econometric Reviews*.

Roger became Director of what is now called the Office of Energy Policy and New Uses (OEPNU) in 1990. As OEPNU's Director, Roger led many interagency and interdepartmental efforts, presented results of special analysis and technical information

and represented policy positions of the Department on a variety of sensitive issues. He has served as the Department representative for such activities as the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Energy Strategy, DOE Oil and Gas Initiative and the White House Bioenergy Initiative. For his efforts as group leader, Roger was awarded the Department's highest honor in 1993, the Distinguished Service Award, for "Innovative interagency coordination to develop and implement the Secretary's initiative to enhance USDA's biofuels activities."

Rule's Effects on Rural America

Bruce Babcock
Professor, Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa

Bruce Babcock is a professor of economics and the director of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development at Iowa State University.

Professor Babcock's research interests include understanding agricultural commodity markets, the impacts of biofuels on U.S. and world agriculture, the development of innovative risk management strategies for farmers, and the analysis of agricultural and trade policies.

Professor Babcock received his B.S. in economics of resource use and his M.S. in agricultural economics from the University of California at Davis, and his Ph.D. in agricultural and resource economics from the University of California at Berkeley.

Summary: To achieve the greenhouse gas performance thresholds outlined in EISA and being examined in California may require the U.S. biofuels industry to do more than simply produce a renewable fuel. If it is estimated that expansion of U.S. biofuels results in significant greenhouse gas emissions from overseas land use changes, then biofuel producers will need to decide how to respond. No response would mean risking the loss of California's large market for ethanol and limitation of the ethanol industry to plants that are grandfathered in so that they do not have to meet the greenhouse gas thresholds. Alternative responses include reducing greenhouse gas emissions from ethanol processing or corn production or the purchase of greenhouse gas offsets. The economic impacts of these alternatives on the ethanol and corn industries will be examined.

U.S. Department of Energy's Role in Implementing the Renewable Fuels Standards

**Carmen Difiglio
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Analysis
Department of Energy
Washington, DC**

Carmen Difiglio serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Analysis in the Office of Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). He is responsible for DOE's analyses of energy policies. Highlights of his DOE career include the significant role he played in developing the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the Energy Policy Acts of 1992 and 2005. He also directed the U.S. Alternative Fuels Council and has supervised the development of a *National Energy Strategy*. His career achievements were recognized with a Presidential Rank Award (1997).

Carmen Difiglio served 6 years (1998-2004) as Head of the Energy Technology Policy Division at the International Energy Agency (IEA). There he developed a new world energy model, supervised the development of several IEA publications and contributed to IEA's *World Energy Outlook* series.

Urban transportation demand models were the focus of Carmen Difiglio's early work. Later he developed one of the earliest "bottom-up" engineering-economic models of the transport sector. These bottom-up models have since become commonplace in energy policy analysis. Before joining DOE, Carmen worked as an economist for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, the Transportation Studies Center of the University of Pennsylvania, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. He has chaired the Committee on Energy and Transportation (Transportation Research Board) and the IEA Energy Efficiency Working Party. Difiglio is the author of many papers on energy economics, travel forecasting, fuel economy policies and other topics. His doctorate is from the University of Pennsylvania.

Objectives of the Renewable Fuels Standards And Its Environmental Effects

Margo Tsirigotis Oge
Director of the Office of Transportation and Air Quality
Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

Margo Tsirigotis Oge is the Director of the Office of Transportation and Air Quality. Under Ms. Oge's leadership the Environmental Protection Agency finalized three of the United States most significant environmental accomplishments; the clean Tier 2 motor vehicle and gasoline sulfur program, the historic 2007 clean diesel truck, bus and diesel fuel rule and the clean off road diesel engine and fuel program. These programs set more than a 90 percent reduction in harmful pollutants emitted from cars, trucks, busses, construction, farming and industrial equipment along with providing cleaner gasoline and diesel fuel. As a result, these three rules alone are estimated to prevent on an annual basis more than 22,000 premature deaths and hundreds of thousands of respiratory illness.

In 2004, Ms. Oge was a recipient of the Presidential Distinguished Executive Rank Award for her outstanding leadership on environmental transportation issues. She is also a previous winner of the Presidential Meritorious Award. In 2002, the Women's Council on Energy and the Environment honored Ms. Oge with its Woman of Achievement Award. Ms. Oge was recognized for her leadership in shepherding the Tier 2 and heavy duty diesel rules to fruition. She was the first nonpolitical appointee to receive this award.

Ms. Oge has been with the Environmental Protection Agency since 1980 and has held various management positions in the Agency. She also served as Legislative Aide to Senator John Chafee of Rhode Island, the minority ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee supporting various programs and bills relating to environmental issues.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Oge held such positions as Director of the Office of Radiation and Indoor Air; Director of the Radon Division, Office of Radiation Programs; Deputy Division Director of the Economics and Technology Division under the Office of Toxic Substances; and Section Chief of the New Chemical Section under the Office of Toxic Substances.

Ms. Oge earned her Master's Degree in Engineering from the University of Massachusetts in Lowell. She also attended George Washington University and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She is married, with two wonderful daughters, and resides in McLean, Virginia.

Effects of the Renewable Fuels Standards on the Investment Perspective

Ann Duignan

**Managing Director, U.S. Machinery Analyst, J.P. Morgan
New York New York**

Ann is a managing director covering U.S. machinery sector. In 2007 and 2008, Ann was ranked #2 in the Institutional Investors' All-America Research Poll and ranks #3 in the Financial Times Stock Picking Survey. Prior to joining J.P Morgan Ann worked at Bear Stearns and Sanford C. Bernstein as the capital goods analyst. Prior to Bernstein, she spent five years with Eaton Corporation where she held positions in the Aerospace Controls Division as vice president and general manager, in the Truck Components Division as a business development and strategy director and at corporate as manager of business development. Before Eaton, she spent two years with management consultant, Booz-Allen and Hamilton and prior to that she spent a number of years in the automotive supply industry. Ann has an honors degree in Agricultural Engineering from U.C.D., Ireland, a masters- equivalent in Mathematical Modeling, and an MBA from Vanderbilt.

Summary: Implementing the renewable fuel standards is going to become much more challenging for those interested in the stock market. Ann will review how the stock market has perceived the growth in renewable fuels, as well as a likely reaction by the market to events that could unfold in 2009.

Food Safety Track

February 27, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Salon I

ONE WORLD, ONE HEALTH™: ISSUES AT THE INTERSECTION OF ANIMAL & HUMAN HEALTH

Recent outbreaks of West Nile Virus, Ebola Hemorrhagic Fever, SARS, Monkeypox, Mad Cow Disease, and Avian Influenza remind us that human and animal health are intimately connected. A broader understanding of health and disease demands a unity of approach achievable only through a consilience of human, domestic animal, and wildlife health – One Health. Phenomena such as species loss, habitat degradation, pollution, invasive alien species, and global climate change are fundamentally altering life on our planet from terrestrial wilderness and ocean depths to the most densely populated cities. The rise of emerging and resurging infectious diseases threatens not only humans (and their food supplies and economies), but also the fauna and flora comprising the critically needed biodiversity that supports the living infrastructure of our world.

**Moderator: Cindy J. Smith, Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection
Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Cindy Smith is the Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Ms. Smith carries out the agency's broad mission of protecting and promoting American agriculture, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act and carrying out wildlife damage management activities.

Ms. Smith began her career with APHIS in 1979 shortly after graduating high school. Throughout her years in APHIS, Ms. Smith has gained diverse experience by supporting a number of different programs, including plant protection and quarantine, wildlife services (WS) and biotechnology regulatory services (BRS).

In April 2007, Ms. Smith was appointed as the Associate Administrator of APHIS. Prior to that, Ms. Smith served as the deputy administrator for BRS and played a major role in shaping the agency's biotechnology regulatory structure, establishing more rigorous requirements for field tests of genetically engineered crops and initiating efforts to review and strengthen the agency's overarching biotechnology regulations. From 2001 to 2002, Ms. Smith was the associate deputy administrator for WS, which provides federal leadership and expertise to resolve conflicts caused by wildlife.

While working her way through APHIS, Ms. Smith completed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Microbiology from the University of Maryland in 1983 as well as a Masters Degree in Management from the University of Maryland in 2000.

A native Marylander, Ms. Smith resides with her family in Woodstock, Maryland. She and her husband Alan are very proud of their six children and three grandchildren.

One Health: A Concept for the 21st Century

Laura H. Kahn, MD

**Research Scholar, Program on Science and Global Security, Woodrow Wilson
School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
Princeton, New Jersey**

Dr. Laura H. Kahn, an internist, is on the research staff, Program on Science and Global Security at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University. She led a two year study assessing the public health infrastructures of New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania under a Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation grant from 2003 to 2005.

A native of California, Dr. Kahn holds a B.S. degree in nursing from UCLA, an M.D. from Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, a Master of Public Health from Columbia University and a Master of Public Policy from Princeton University. Before joining the Princeton University staff, she was managing physician for the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, a medical officer for the Food and Drug Administration in Rockville, Maryland, an attending physician/educator at Prince George's Hospital in Cheverly, Maryland and a staff physician at Gouverneur Hospital in New York, New York. Dr. Kahn is a fellow of the American College of Physicians (ACP) and is a recipient of the New Jersey Chapter's Laureate Award.

Dr. Kahn organizes the Carnegie Corporation sponsored Biodefense seminar series. She co-taught a graduate course on "Prevention against Weapons of Mass Destruction" at Princeton in 2003 and 2004. In September 2005, she organized a conference on zoonotic diseases and the need to integrate human and animal public health infrastructure to enable effective responses to bioterrorism and pandemics at Princeton University. Dr. Kahn was co-director and lecturer for the course, "Zoonoses: An Emerging Public Health Issue", for graduate and medical students at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City during the spring of 2006.

In April 2006, Dr. Kahn published *Confronting Zoonoses, Linking Human and Veterinary Medicine* in the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) *Journal of Emerging Infectious Diseases* <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/vol12no04/05-0956.htm>. She is currently writing a book on leadership during public health crises and is a monthly columnist for the online Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (<http://www.thebulletin.org>).

One Health: Assuming Our Collaborative Responsibility

Roger Mahr

**Former President American Veterinary Medical Association, Representative to the
One Health Joint Steering Committee
Washington, DC**

Dr. Roger Mahr was born and raised on a dairy farm in Indianola, Iowa. He received his veterinary medical degree from Iowa State University in 1971. After working as an associate in suburban Chicago for three years, he established, owned, and directed the Meadow View Veterinary Clinic in Geneva, Illinois, an accredited hospital member of the American Animal Hospital Association from 1974 to 2005. He continues as a small animal clinical practitioner and also works as an independent consultant. Becoming AVMA President in July of 2006, he revealed a vision for a one health initiative to establish a coordinated mechanism to facilitate collaboration and cooperation among colleagues in veterinary medicine, human medicine, public health and environmental sciences with a focus on “One World, One Health, One Medicine”. During Dr. Mahr’s presidency the AVMA Executive Board took official action to establish the “One Health Initiative” by approving a recommendation from him to establish the AVMA One Health Initiative Task Force. Twelve recommendations from the Task Force now form the basic outline for the One Health Initiative. Dr. Mahr currently serves as the AVMA representative to the national One Health Joint Steering Committee, which is charged to begin the execution of the One Health Initiative, including the formation of a National One Health Commission.

Summary: Animal health and human health are truly at a crossroads. The convergence of animal, human, and environmental health dictates that the “One Health” concept must be embraced. As veterinarians, collaborating and cooperating with our colleagues in human medicine, public health, and the environmental sciences is imperative. By working together, more can be accomplished to improve health worldwide than by working alone. Strengthening relationships with national and international associations and organizations, will further enhance global health and development. The veterinary medical profession has the responsibility to assume a major leadership role in that effort. In April of 2007, the American Veterinary Medical Association took official action to establish the One Health Initiative with the formation of a One Health Initiative Task Force. Twelve recommendations from the Task Force now form the basic outline for the One Health Initiative. A multi-disciplinary national One Health Joint Steering Committee has now been created to facilitate a transition process from the Task Force to the establishment of a sustainable driving force in the form of an independent non-profit National One Health Commission. Success of the One Health Initiative will lead to a coordinated collaboration across multiple professions, disciplines and entities with the goal of attaining optimal health for people, animals, and our environment.

The Importance of the Animal, Health-food, Safety, Public Health Continuum and the Use of Public-Private Partnerships to Address Long-term Solutions

Mike Robach
Vice President, Corporate Food Safety and Regulatory Affairs
Cargill, Inc.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mike Robach joined Cargill in January of 2004 to lead the company's global food safety and regulatory programs. In this role he leads Cargill's corporate efforts across food protection and security, quality assurance, animal health and regulatory compliance. Mike started out his career with Monsanto Company and prior to joining Cargill he headed up technical services for Wayne Farms LLC. Mike is a graduate of Michigan State University and Virginia Tech. He is a member of the American Meat Institute, the National Turkey Federation, GMA's Science Institute Executive Board, past chairman of the U.S Poultry and Egg Association's Research Advisory Committee, a member of the International Association of Food Protection, the Institute of Food Technologists, and the American Society for Microbiology. Mike is the President of Safe, Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere (SSAFE), a group of global food companies, NGOs, intergovernmental agencies and universities working together to assure the safety and security of the global food supply chain. He has worked closely with the USDA, FDA and global governments regarding food safety policy, HACCP, and regulatory reform based on science. From 1995 through 2000, Mike was a member of the National Advisory Committee for Microbiological Criteria in Foods.

The Animal/Human Interface-from Wildlife Trade to Avian Influenza: A Global Perspective on Implications for the United States

Kristine Smith
Wildlife Veterinarian, Assistant Director for Field Programs,
Global Health Program, Wildlife Conservation Society
Bronx, New York

Dr. Kristine Smith is a wildlife veterinarian and the Assistant Director for Field Programs with Wildlife Conservation Society's Global Health Program (GHP). Dr. Smith holds a D.V.M. from Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine and completed her residency in Zoo and Wildlife Medicine at the Bronx Zoo in New York. She served as a field veterinarian for the wild bird Global Avian Influenza Network for Surveillance (GAINS) project, conducting disease surveillance in Africa and Asia. Dr. Smith is the Chair of the New York Bushmeat Trade Health Committee, and assists in the coordination of GHP field activities around the globe from Ebola to Avian Influenza.

Summary: Wildlife health is increasingly linked to public health and agro-economic security from the poorest of countries to the most developed. At the crux of this intimate connection is rising human/wildlife/livestock interaction in a growing global and

industrialized world. It is through the manipulation of wildlife, wildlife products, and wildlife habitats that diseases including SARS, monkeypox, avian influenza, and Ebola have devastated human health and global economies, costing world governments billions of dollars, exemplified by the 10 billion US dollar price tag of SARS to Asian governments alone. Much of these costs are incurred from detecting deadly pathogens after they have already spread.

Beyond the considerable conservation implications, the movement and consumption of wild animals via the trade industry has proven to be a significant source of emerging disease. With credit to advances in transportation, more than 40,000 live primates, 4 million live birds, 640,000 live reptiles, and 350 million live tropical fish are transported every year as part of the global wildlife trade. The United States is one of the world's largest consumers of both legally and illegally imported wildlife products. The importation of wildlife into the U.S. increased 62% within the decade from 1992-2003, with *declared* shipments alone escalating from approximately 74,500 to nearly 120,000 per year. Between 2000-2004, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service records reflect imports of over one billion individual animals and an additional 5 million kilograms of animals (only classified by weight) into the United States. Imports of wildlife origin which escape interception pose an undefined risk to the public and the U.S. economy.

This presentation will review the threats inherent in global wildlife trade practices and other interactions at the human/wildlife/livestock interface, and will describe activities underway to curb such threats, including the wild bird Global Avian Influenza Network for Surveillance (GAINS) project.

CONSERVATION TRACK
February 27, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Salon II

COTTON OUTLOOK

Moderator: John Scruggs, U.S. Editor, Cotlook, Ltd., Memphis, Tennessee

John Scruggs is the U.S. Editor and Manager for Cotlook Limited, the Liverpool-based publisher of Cotton Outlook market news services and the Cotlook "A" Index. Based in Memphis, John leads Cotlook's coverage of the U.S. cotton industry through daily market commentary, a weekly print and online publication and daily market news and price collection from shippers.

Previously, John held positions as a staff writer covering agriculture at Memphis Business Journal and as the associate editor of Cotton Grower and Cotton International magazines.

John attended Middlebury College, received a B.A. in English from the University of Mississippi, and completed graduate study in Journalism at the University of Memphis.

USDA Cotton Outlook

Steven Neff
Agricultural Economist, Economic and Policy Analysis Staff
Farm Service Agency, USDA
Washington, DC

Since June 2003, Steve Neff has served as an agricultural economist specializing in cotton for the Economic and Policy Analysis Staff in USDA's Farm Service Agency. In 20 years at USDA, he previously worked in agricultural trade policy for five years in the Foreign Agricultural Service and on detail at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. Neff began his USDA career in 1988 at the Economic Research Service.

The Challenges Facing the Texas Cotton Industry

Wally Darneille
President and CEO, Plains Cotton Cooperative Association
Lubbock, Texas

Wally Darneille became President and CEO of Plains Cotton Cooperative Association in Lubbock, Texas, in July of 2004, following a 30-year career in the cotton merchandising industry. He was recruited by PCCA from his position of Senior Vice President of Weil Brothers-Cotton, Inc., of Montgomery, Alabama. He was President of the International Cotton Association in Liverpool, England, in 2007, the first American elected to that post. He was also President of the Texas Cotton Association in 2001. He served two terms on the board of the American Cotton Shippers Association, and has been on the Boards of Directors of the National Cotton Council, Cotton Council International, The Seam, Telmark, and the National Council of Textile Organizations since 2004. He is currently the Vice-Chairman of the NCTO, and the Vice-President of CCI.

PCCA is a grower-owned cotton marketing cooperative headquartered in Lubbock, with about 15,000 active producer members. In addition to their marketing activities, they have warehousing operations in four states, a textile mill which produces enough denim to make twenty million pairs of jeans per year, an electronic market subsidiary, a software business which serves their members, and a merchant services subsidiary providing a basket of functions for the cotton merchant trade. Their sales in the Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2008 were \$1.56 billion, and they employ approximately 1,000 people around the world.

Production and Policy in China-Xinjiang

Clyde Davidson
Vice President, Research, Allenberg Cotton Company
Louis Dreyfus Commodities
Cordova, Tennessee

Clyde Davidson is Vice President of Research for Allenberg Cotton Co., the world's leading cotton merchandising firm. Allenberg Cotton, headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee, is a division of Louis Dreyfus Commodities with additional cotton offices in China, India, Geneva, Brazil, Paraguay, and elsewhere around the world. Local researchers analyze conditions for the firm in the world's major cotton centers. He has led cotton research activities for the firm since 1981.

Summary: China's western development strategy, announced in 1999, has assisted continued land reclamation efforts in Xinjiang, the world's largest center of cotton production. Local economic development programs are providing opportunities for people by preparing new land and making it available for cultivation under lease arrangements. Provincial authorities seek to restructure the crops which will be planted in Xinjiang in the future, while maintaining cotton output through increased yields.

Volatility and Change in the Cotton Futures Market: Lessons from the Past Year

Mike Stevens

**Cotton Futures Specialist, SFS Futures/Swiss Financial Services
Mandeville, Louisiana**

Mike Stevens is a cotton specialist for SFS Futures, commodity division of Swiss Financial Services of Zurich, Switzerland. He lives in Mandeville, Louisiana, and acts independently as hedging advisor for a major brokerage house. Currently, he is in his 40th year of cotton futures brokerage.

Stevens was formerly a Vice President and member of the national commodity departments of EF Hutton, Continental Grain and Merrill Lynch. He gives a weekly radio cotton market commentary on a station heard through out West Texas on behalf of Ag Market Network and Cotton Incorporated.

Stevens is also a regular contributor to the Louisiana Ag Network following USDA crop reports, and a regular panelist on the Ag Market Network monthly conference call sponsored by the state extension services for cotton producers.

He is also an option market instructor for National Cotton Council's Beltwide Convention as well as for Cotton Incorporated's regional meetings.

Stevens writes weekly cotton commentary for DTN as well as the monthly cotton commentary for a well know agricultural marketing advisory service. He also offers a daily e-mail subscription service that provides both fundamental and technical news as well as ICE and USDA reports on a timely basis.

Summary: Evolution and changes in marketing patterns within the cotton industry have always been inevitable. Historically, the changes occur gradually over a period of time and serve to modernize our industry with positive progress. However, with change also comes pain as the different segments of the industry try to adjust. The change is often resisted and at times with an eventual fatal consequence.

On the other hand, the events leading up to and immediately following early March 2008 provided tremendous shock, forcing producers, merchants and mills to at least attempt to make sudden and certainly unplanned defensive moves. Volatility rose to unheard of, unmanageable and disastrous levels, and the resulting damage sent shock waves through the industry, left deep scars, and are still being felt today.

COMMODITIES TRACK

February 27, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Salon III

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY OUTLOOK

Moderator: Warren Preston

**Associate Deputy Administrator and Chief, Livestock and Grain Market News
Branch, Livestock and Seed Program, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Dr. Warren Preston serves as the Chief of the Livestock and Grain Market News Branch in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), a position he has held since July 2007. Concurrently, Dr. Preston serves as an Associate Deputy Administrator and Chief Economist for the AMS Livestock and Seed Program (LSP). He joined the LSP family in November 2001 as the Program's Chief Economist. From 1992 to 2001, he worked in the Packers and Stockyards Programs of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), initially serving as Leader of the Economics Section in the Industry Analysis Staff and later as Chief of the Competition Branch. From 1986 to 1992, he held a research and teaching position as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Virginia Tech.

Dr. Preston earned a bachelor's degree in dairy science from The Ohio State University and a master's degree and doctorate in agricultural economics from Purdue University. Although he is a native Californian born in the city of San Jose, at a young age he moved with his family and spent most of his youth in the town of Canfield, Ohio.

Livestock & Poultry Outlook

Shayle Shagam

**Livestock & Poultry Analyst
World Agricultural Outlook Board, USDA
Washington, DC**

Mr. Shagam currently serves as a livestock analyst in the World Agricultural Outlook Board where he chairs the Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICEC) for red meat, poultry and dairy. The ICECs bring together economic analysts from USDA agencies to generate the Department's monthly commodity forecasts. Between 1986 and 1998, Mr. Shagam worked for the Economic Research Service, USDA where he was responsible for developing forecasts of international red meat trade and commodity analysis support for the North American Free Trade Agreement and the WTO negotiations. Mr. Shagam graduated in 1980 from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in agricultural economics and received an M.S. in agricultural economics from Michigan State University in 1986.

Commodity Price Volatility and Recession: How Do Restaurants Cope?

Kevin Bost
President, Procurement Strategies, Inc.
Des Plaines, Illinois

Kevin Bost is President of Procurement Strategies Inc., a private consulting firm focusing on protein cost management and risk control strategies for selected clients in the restaurant, food processing, and retail sectors. In today's environment of volatile commodity prices, food cost control and price risk management have become increasingly important to food-based businesses. PSI's objective is to guide its clients into this arena in a disciplined, scientific manner.

Kevin has been involved in the livestock, meat, and commodity trading business since 1981. His experience includes employment as a livestock market analyst in USDA's Economic Research Service; as Director of Procurement Strategy for Topco Associates, a nationwide procurement cooperative; and as Director of Supply Chain Management for Wendy's International. Kevin has a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Arkansas and an M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Illinois.

The Impact of the Economic Slowdown at the Retail Meat Case

Rick Dawrant
President, Lucid Partners
St. Charles, Illinois

Rick Dawrant is President of Lucid Partners, a retail consulting firm specializing in analyzing and developing insights for perishables categories. His retail and corporate experience in CPG and perishables includes leading consumer marketing, brand positioning and data warehousing initiatives for clients. Rick speaks at a number of client events instructing retailers, brand groups and trade associations on marketing and Category Management effectiveness.

Summary: Retail meat case trends in the face of economic uncertainty.

The economic downturn is having a profound impact on consumer spending, causing changes in their overall buying behavior. These changes span across all categories, including food. In response, grocery retailers are altering strategies and tactics to adjust to consumer trends in an effort to maintain sales and market share. In this session, we will examine how retail meat cases have responded to various challenges of the past decade and explore what retailers will be doing in the coming year to grow fresh meat sales.

In this session we will examine how retail meat cases have responded to various challenges of the past decade, discuss current trends and explore what retailers are planning to do in the coming year to grow fresh meat sales.

COMMODITY LUNCHEONS

February 27, 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

Salons V-VI

SPECIALTY CROPS LUNCHEON

**Moderator: Thomas A. Bewick, National Program Leader, Horticulture,
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Tom Bewick received his B.S. degree in Olericulture from UC-Davis and his M.S. and Ph.D. in Horticulture from the University of Wisconsin. In 1987, he joined the faculty in Horticultural Sciences at the University of Florida and in 1997 he moved to the University of Massachusetts as Director of the Cranberry Experiment Station on Cape Cod. Tom joined CSREES in 2000 as the National Program Leader for Horticulture. In addition to his responsibilities in Horticulture, he has provided leadership in the areas of invasive species and organic agriculture.

Maintaining Green: The Long History of the Environmental and Sustainability Movement Within the Wine Industry

**Chris Savage
Senior Director, Global Environmental Affairs, E & J Gallo Winery
Modesto, California**

Chris Savage is Senior Director of Global Environmental Affairs for E. & J. Gallo Winery, the world's largest family-owned winery.

In his current capacity, Chris directs all environmental compliance efforts for E. & J. Gallo Winery as well as for its associated businesses which includes seven producing wineries, a bottling operations facility, a glass manufacturing plant, printing and label manufacturing operations and Gallo's vineyard operations. Additionally, Chris handles global environmental issues that face or could impact Gallo's international business.

Since joining E. & J. Gallo Winery in 2001, Chris has participated in or led a number of notable efforts including helping establish and grow the Winery's corporate sustainability and environmental affairs groups, working to qualify the E. & J. Gallo Winery as the first winery in the United States to receive the International Organization of Standards ISO 14001 certification for managing and reducing its impact on the environment, and expanding and refining the wine industry's Code of Sustainable Winegrowing Practices.

Chris is a member of a number of international organizations including the International Federation of Wine and Spirits (FIVS) and the International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV). Additionally, Chris has been an active member of the Manufacturers Council of the Central Valley since its inception in 1991 and he is the organization's current president. He is involved with the Wine Institute where he currently serves as the chair of the group's environmental committee. He is also a board member of the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance.

Chris is a graduate of Humboldt State University with a degree in wildlife biology. He has also been active in his local community as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Riverbank and a member of the Stanislaus Consolidated Fire District's Board of Directors, as well as a number of other civic advisory groups. He is a native Modestan where he still resides with his wife Heidi and their daughter Lauren.

February 27, 12:15 p.m.
Salons C, D, E

SUGAR & SWEETENERS LUNCHEON

Dr. Eric Hentges will summarize research regarding the role in human nutrition of high fructose corn syrup (HFCS) and sugar, which are both heavily used in processed foods and beverages. He will present a survey of research on nutritional similarities and differences between HFCS and sugar.

**Moderator: William Janis, International Economist, Sugar and Dairy Branch
Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Bill Janis has served as an International Economist responsible for sugar in the Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), USDA since 2006. His earlier work involved several positions as an Agricultural Economist in FAS since 1995 and from 1981 to 1995 a stint as an Industry Economist with the U.S. Department of Commerce. Bill hails from Chicago. He earned a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Mary Washington and an M.A. in Economics from the University of Virginia. Bill resides in McLean, Virginia.

Sweetener Consumption and Human Health

**Eric J. Hentges, Ph.D.
Executive Director, International Life Science Institute-North American Branch
Washington, DC**

Dr. Eric Hentges joined the International Life Science Institute, North America (ILSI NA) as the Executive Director on September 4, 2007. In this capacity he works closely with ILSI NA members, trustees, science advisors, and staff to enhance the organization's programs and the impact of its scientific output. Dr. Hentges joined ILSI NA with over 25 years of experience in nutrition research and education. He has directed strategic research priority planning and administration of competitive research grant programs for several organizations. Additionally, he has directed the development and implementation of nutrition education programs and consumer market research programs. Most recently he served as the Executive Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. In this position he had oversight of the USDA's involvement in the development of the 2005 *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and *MyPyramid, Food Guidance System*. Prior to this, Dr. Hentges served in key positions at the National Pork Board, the National Pork Producers Council, and the National Live Stock and Meat Board. Dr. Hentges holds degrees from Iowa State University, Auburn University and Oklahoma State University. He is a member of the American Society for Nutrition and the Institute of Food Technologists.

Summary: The occurrence and impact of fructose in the American food supply has garnered much attention in the popular press as well as the scientific community. Much of the popular attention has originated from concern about the shift toward the use of high-fructose corn syrup (HFCS) from sucrose and a lack of understanding that HFCS

and sucrose are compositionally quite similar. Simultaneously, the available body of scientific literature has offered mixed results about the physiological effects of dietary fructose, further complicating popular messages and consumer perception. At this time there is little evidence directly comparing the metabolic effects of fructose, glucose, HFCS, and sucrose. This presentation will briefly summarize the available data to assess the potential health effects associated with current intake levels of sweeteners containing fructose, fructose sources, quantity in the diet, metabolism, and future research needs.

February 27, 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Salons I, II, III

GRAINS & OILSEEDS LUNCHEON

Moderator: Joy Harwood, Director of Economic and Policy Staff
Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC

Joy Harwood is Director of the Economic and Policy Analysis Staff at USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), a position she has held since March, 2006. Her group has current insights into the market and policy issues affecting commodity programs and the Conservation Reserve Program, and is frequently called upon to brief policy officials on a wide variety of topics.

Prior to moving to FSA, she spent 19 years at USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), where she served as Deputy Director for Market Outlook (2001-06) and chief of ERS's Field Crops Branch (1996-2000). Earlier in her career, she managed ERS's risk management research project, and in 1998 served for a period as associate administrator of USDA's Risk Management Agency. She is a three-time recipient of the Secretary's Honor Award, one of the highest awards given by the Secretary of Agriculture. She was named "USDA Economist of the Year" in 1996.

During the 1990 farm bill debate, she was a Legis Fellow for Senator Bob Dole, at which time she worked on the development of the crop insurance title to the 1990 Farm Act, as well as trade, conservation, and commodity program issues. She co-taught the USDA Graduate School course, "Understanding USDA's Farm Programs" over a 10-year period with her husband, Craig Jagger, who is Chief Economist for the House Committee on Agriculture. She received a PhD from Cornell University in 1987.

Beyond the Agricultural Economy: Macroeconomic Forces Moving the Sector Today

Robert E. Young, II
Chief Economist
American Farm Bureau Federation
Washington D.C.

Bob joined American Farm Bureau Federation in 2003 as the Chief Economist, coordinating the activities of the Economic Analysis Team. The team provides support for short-term issues in support of the policy implementation effort of the Federation and also helps to maintain the longer-term view of factors that are driving the overall farm sector, both from an input and an output perspective.

Specializing in the analysis of global agricultural policy, Dr Young came to Farm Bureau from the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute or FAPRI where he was Co-Director from 1991 through 2003. FAPRI is an internationally recognized policy analysis center that models global food, agriculture, natural resources and trade. Bob also served as an associate professor in Agricultural Economics at the University of Missouri.

FAPRI's mission continues to be to provide objective, quantitative analysis of food, agriculture, nutrition and environmental issues. FAPRI received the American Agricultural Economics Association Award for Outstanding Research in Public Policy for its work on the 1990 farm bill, and the Secretary of Agriculture's Research Award in 2002.

While at FAPRI, Bob helped to develop an analysis team in the Republic and North Ireland, establishing the FAPRI-Ireland partnership, a consortia of government and university based analysts who now provide analytical support to the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Bob has worked with, or briefed government officials not only from the United States, but Canada, Ireland, United Kingdom, France, Greece, Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, the European Union Commission, Japan, several countries in Central and West Africa and the United Nations. He is regularly quoted in the agriculture press as well as the Wall Street Journal and other national publications.

Before becoming the Co-Director of FAPRI, Bob served as the Chief Economist of the United State Senate Committee on Agriculture from 1987 through 1991. There he was active in the development of the 1990 Farm Bill as well as various budget and disaster assistance bills.

Bob has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Missouri, with a B.S. and M.S. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Missouri as well.

A former Lieutenant Commander in the United States Naval Reserve, Bob toured the South Pacific courtesy of the United States Navy before returning to University of Missouri for his graduate work with his wife and two children.

Summary: Historically factors moving the grains and oilseed markets have been associated with planting decisions, domestic and international weather, the size of the livestock herd and more recently, energy markets. For the next several months however, macro-economic forces are likely to play a more important role, if nothing else due to strong psychological effects. The presentation will focus more on the behavior of the general economy, some of the key variables to watch over the next few months and how those factors may affect the sector.

February 27, 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Salon B

COTTON LUNCHEON

**Moderator: Charles V. Cunningham, President, Cunningham Associates
Mineral, Virginia**

Mr. Cunningham has 30 years of expertise in government affairs, particularly as pertains to United States Department of Agriculture matters dealing with the cotton industry in the United States and abroad. Since 1992 he has been president of Charles V. Cunningham & Associates, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in matters dealing with the United States and world cotton trade.

His responsibilities include:

- Keeping abreast of developments related to cotton in Congress, the United States Department of Agriculture and other government agencies.
- Monitoring the United States and world cotton supply-demand-price situation.
- Informing clients of activities and developments having an impact on them.
- Advising clients of appropriate actions to take.

From 1962 to 1992, Mr. Cunningham served as a county manager for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Services (ASCS), U.S., Department of Agriculture. He served as an ASCS county manager in several West Texas counties from 1962-1967. Moved to ASCS headquarters in Washington, DC in 1967 as an Agricultural Marketing Specialist in cotton. Worked in the ASCS cotton programs continuously from 1967 until retirement in June 1992 progressing from a marketing specialist to a section head, branch chief, division deputy director, division director and acting assistant deputy administrator. Was recognized as "the authority" on Government cotton programs.

His responsibilities included:

- Analyzed and developed Government cotton programs.
- Wrote Cotton program legislation.
- Wrote Cotton program regulations.
- Developed cotton supply-use projections and budget estimates.
- Advised Department of Agriculture officials on cotton program matters.
- Monitored U.S. and world cotton supply-demand-price situation.
- Worked with Congress and staff on cotton program matters.
- Traveled extensively in the U.S. and abroad explaining the cotton programs to ASCS employees, industry groups and farm organizations.

Major Honors:

- Inducted into the Cotton Hall of Fame Jan.1993
 - ASCS Administrator's Award for Service to Agriculture June 1992
 - National Cotton Council Harry S. Baker Distinguished Service Award Feb. 1992
 - Secretary of Agriculture's Award for Distinguished Service June 1991
 - Distinguished Alumnus, Texas Tech University Oct. 1990
-
- Who's Who in Government Service June 1990

Education:

B.S. 1955, Agricultural Education, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

My 43 Years in the Cotton Business

Neal P. Gillen
Executive Vice President and General Counsel
American Cotton Shippers Association
Washington, DC

Neal P. Gillen is Executive Vice President & General Counsel of the American Cotton Shippers Association. He also serves as Legal Counsel to its Federated Associations in the U.S., in addition to being Legal Counsel to the American Cotton Exporters Association and the World Cotton Exporters Association.

He has represented the U.S. cotton trade since 1966 in the areas of agriculture and trade policy, contracts, export credit financing, commodity futures trading, arbitration, and antitrust issues. He has appeared before numerous state and federal courts, and has testified before committees of the U.S. Congress, various state legislative committees, and the committees of foreign parliamentary bodies on over one hundred different occasions on numerous matters of significant import to the cotton industry.

Gillen is a member of the National Cotton Council's Foreign Trade Policy Advisory Committee, the Export Credit Working Group, the Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, is Chairman of the Legal Faculty at the ACSA International Cotton Institute at the University of Memphis, and is the International Cotton Advisory Committee's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Committee on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL).

In his travels on behalf of the U.S. and the international cotton trade he has visited over forty foreign countries appearing on numerous panels and programs on trade rules, arbitration procedures and enforcement, and other issues of vital import to the cotton industry.

Gillen served in the U.S. Navy as a member of the Naval Security Group, is a 1961 graduate of New York University, where he received his BS degree with honors, and in 1964 he received his JD degree from the Georgetown University Law Center.

He is also the author of five novels, *Sugar Time*, *Capitol Punishment*, *Dinner In Bordeaux*, *Kitty's Rules*, and *Slamming The Close*, and numerous magazine articles, and short stories.

Summary: The U.S. and the world cotton industry have changed considerably since 1966, when the initial farm program reforms of the Kennedy-Johnson Administration began to take hold. Thirteen farm bills later, farm programs have become more complicated as the role of government continues, the difference being that cotton farmers have more choices as they continue to benefit from united action. Gillen will review the essential changes in the U.S. cotton program, the industry, and its markets in a 43-year trip highlighted by amusing anecdotes along the way.

February 27, 12:15 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Salon IV

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY LUNCHEON

Moderator: Joel Greene
Livestock and Dairy Analysts, World Agricultural Outlook Board, USDA
Washington, DC

Joel Greene has been a livestock analyst at USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board working on the department's livestock, poultry, and dairy forecasts since 1999. Prior to joining the Board, he was the senior beef analyst in the Dairy, Livestock, and Poultry Division of the Foreign Agricultural Service, and an agricultural trade analyst in the Trade Analysis Branch at the Economic Research Service. He holds a BA degree in Asian studies from the University of North Carolina, and an MA degree in international affairs and economics from George Washington University.

Wall Street's View of Protein Companies

Farha Aslam
Managing Director, Stephens Inc.
New York, New York

Ms. Aslam joined Stephens Inc. in December 2004 and leads Stephens' equity research coverage of the food and agribusiness sector. Prior to joining Stephens Inc., Ms. Aslam was part of Merrill Lynch's food and agribusiness sector equity research effort since 1999. From 1996 through 1998, Ms. Aslam was an Associate at UBS, where she marketed non-dollar fixed income products as part of a global hedge fund group. She had assignments in New York, London and Japan. From 1991-1994, Ms. Aslam was a Financial Services Representative for SunAmerica Financial.

Ms. Aslam received her BA from the University of California in 1991 and an MBA in Finance from Columbia University in 1996. Ms. Aslam is a member of the Consumer Analyst Group of New York and Association for Investment Management and Research.

RURAL AMERICA TRACK

February 27, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salons V-VI

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES: NOW AND TOMORROW

U.S. farmers and agribusinesses depend on an efficient, effective, and reliable transportation system to provide the world with top quality agricultural commodities and food products. This session will explore the importance of the U.S. transportation system to agriculture with the unique challenges and opportunities facing the rail, barge, and trucking industries. Discussions will integrate the agricultural supply and demand fundamentals with the growing demand for worldwide freight transportation and rising transportation costs.

**Moderator: David R. Shipman, Associate Administrator
Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Overview of the U.S. Transportation System

**Kendell Keith
President, National Grain and Feed Association
Washington, DC**

Kendell has served as the National Grain and Feed Association's (NGFA') top executive staff officer since March 1987. As chief operating officer, he is responsible for implementing the policies of the Board of Directors and for planning, coordinating and implementing the NGFA's programs, services and budget. He was vice president and corporate secretary/treasurer from 1985-87. In that capacity, he administered the operation of the NGFA's unique and time-honored Trade Rules and Arbitration System.

A native of Oklahoma, Kendell joined the NGFA staff in 1980 as director of economic services. An economist, he has a background in a wide range of public policy issues, including government commodity, agricultural policy and storage programs; international trade; domestic grain markets; and livestock marketing. He earned his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in agricultural economics at Oklahoma State University. He is a member of the American Agricultural Economics Association and the American Society of Association Executives.

Summary: This will be a general overview of the U.S. transportation system in view of the growing world demand for freight transportation and rising cost of shipping. This topic will focus on the general trends in agricultural transportation, including challenges and increasing costs for bulk grains as well as high-value products.

Rail Issues for U.S. Agriculture

Paul E. Hammes

**Vice President and General Manager, Agricultural Products Marketing and Sales
Union Pacific Railroad
Omaha, Nebraska**

Paul Hammes is Vice President and General Manager – Agricultural Products in the Marketing & Sales Department at Union Pacific Railroad in Omaha, Nebraska.

Agricultural Products, one of the six major commodity groups, includes grain, grain products, beverages, sweeteners and food. These commodities represent approximately \$2.0 billion in annual revenue and nearly 900,000 carloads to the combined UP-SP system.

Paul joined Union Pacific in 2003 as Assistant Vice President Grain and Grain Products. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he acquired his bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics. Prior to joining Union Pacific, Paul was Assistant Vice President for Cargill, Inc. in their North American Grain and Oilseed business unit. Paul resides in Omaha with his wife Linda. They have three children.

Summary: Rail is an important mode for transporting grain and other agricultural commodities from major production areas to port regions for export, as well as domestic markets. This topic will include rail service and infrastructure developments, including service and capacity.

Agricultural Opportunities in Ocean Shipping

Donna Lemm

**Director of Client Services, Mallory Alexander International Logistics
Memphis, Tennessee**

Donna Lemm, Director of Client Services, Mallory Alexander International Logistics, has over twenty years experience in supply chain management. Donna spent the first fifteen years working for major ocean carriers including Sealand Services and Mitsui OSK lines. She was the Director of Logistics for Hub Group in Memphis and then joined Mallory Alexander International Logistics. Mallory is a privately held logistics provider that is deeply rooted in the agricultural community. While with Mallory, Donna has assisted in growing their global sales, warehousing and distribution effort. Donna's department, Client Services, is tasked with being the liaison between Mallory's customers and Mallory's various business units. Her group is responsible for on-boarding new customer opportunities. Donna serves on the Board of AGTC (Agricultural Transportation Coalition).

Donna has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Louisiana State University and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Bradford, England

Summary: In the last few years, the use of containers by U.S. agricultural exporters has been rapidly rising. However, agricultural shippers face uncertainty as container availability and ocean vessel capacity is currently in short supply. This discussion will focus on potential solutions for agricultural shippers for bulk and container alternatives.

ENERGY TRACK

February 27, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salon IV

SUGAR & RENEWABLE FUELS

**Moderator: Ron Lord, Chief, Sugar and Dairy Branch, Office of Trade Programs,
Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Ron Lord has been Chief of the Sugar and Dairy Branch in the Import Policies and Export Reporting Division, Office of Trade Programs, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA since 2002. Ron's prior work included time as a sweeteners analyst for the Economic Research Service, USDA, as a global procurement analyst with The Coca Cola Company, and teaching economics at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. He grew up on a mission in Zimbabwe. His college degrees are from Earlham College, B.A. in Biology, and an M.A. from University of Wisconsin-Madison and a PhD from Oklahoma State University, both in Agricultural Economics. Ron lives in Silver Spring Maryland.

Prospects for Brazil's Sugar and the Ethanol Industry

**Plinio Nastari
President of Datagro Publicações Ltda
Barueri, Brazil**

President of Datagro Ltda., Brazil's leading consulting company specialized in sugar and alcohol, serving clients in 41 countries. Former president of the Board of the Brazilian Association of Automotive Engineers (AEA). Has served as member of the Technical Committees of Brazil's Interministerial Council on Sugar and Alcohol, National Energy Commission, and Commission for Reexam of the Energy Matrix. Has been professor of economics at FGV, in São Paulo. Lead author of IPCC 2AR; coordinator of Brazil's defense of the anti-dumping and countervailing duties case against Brazilian ethanol exports to the US at the US-ITC, and expert economist and Brazil's advisor in the WTO legal disputes against EU subsidized sugar exports, EU bananas import regime, and Brazilian tyre imports. Holds M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Agricultural Economics, from Iowa State University.

Summary: Opportunities for Sugar & Renewable Fuels in a World in Crisis

Renewable ethanol based from sugar cane and cellulosic materials can be produced at competitive prices with gasoline on a world scale, in many countries. Because, the same feedstock used for ethanol is often used for sugar production, it is likely that increasing correlation between ethanol, sugar and crude oil prices be observed in the future.

Dissemination of sugar-based ethanol production can have far reaching geopolitical implications, and serve as a strategy to promote increased trade, job creation, and reduce immigrating pressure. Greater acceptance of ethanol is necessary in the energy and auto industries, which still perceive it as an exotic alternative, and have refrained from recognizing it as an attainable, viable source of low-carbon, low-sulfur liquid fuel. Even

if mobility relies more intensively on electricity, power from biomass can be a significant element in the same equation. Markets can expand significantly, the impact on sugar S&D magnified, and the contribution to climate change mitigation increased, from reduced trade barriers and continued investments in R&D. International cooperation and technological transfers can accelerate dissemination and greatly expand markets and farm income.

Impacts of Increased U.S. Ethanol Production on the U.S. and Mexico Sweetener Markets

Owen Wagner
Senior Economist, LMC International Ltd.
Washington, DC

Owen Wagner is a Research Economist specializing in the U.S. and Mexican sugar and sweetener markets for LMC International, a UK-based consultancy specializing in agricultural commodities and their end products. He is based out of the LMC office in Washington, DC. Prior to joining LMC, Mr. Wagner worked in a genetics lab for the USDA-ARS and for a cranberry grower's trade group in Massachusetts. Mr. Wagner holds a B.S. in Agronomy from North Carolina State University and a M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. His graduate thesis, "Impetus, Options and Consequences for Sugar Policy Reform in the United States" examined farm policy options for the U.S. sugar sector in the face of the 2008 Farm Bill.

Summary: Many analysts had predicted that once North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was fully implemented Mexico would develop a large sugar surplus due to the substitution of high fructose corn syrup for sugar in its beverage sector. As we begin the second year of full NAFTA implementation, how have these predictions fared? Mr. Wagner will examine the factors driving sweetener trade between the United States and Mexico, the particular role of the U.S. energy policy, and prospects for future U.S.-Mexico sweetener trade.

Prospects for Producing Ethanol from Sugar in the United States

Joe Outlaw

**Professor of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas**

Dr. Joe Outlaw is a Professor and Extension Economist in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. His extension education and applied research activities are in farm management, agricultural policy, and risk management, focusing on issues relevant to Texas crop producers. In addition, he is the Co-Coordinator of Extension's Texas Risk Management Education Program. He is specifically in charge of coordinating the Financial and Risk Management (FARM) Assistance program that provides one-on-one assistance to Texas producers.

Dr. Outlaw is a member of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center and conducts applied research on issues relevant to Texas.

He is originally from Devine, Texas. He is married to Natalie and has three children, Stephanie, Layne and Dylan. Dr. Outlaw received his B.S. (1987), M.S. (1988) and Ph.D. (1992) degrees from Texas A&M University, all in agricultural economics. In 1992 he received the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Outstanding Graduate Student Award.

Summary: Dr. Joe Outlaw will focus on the prospects of sugar-based ethanol production in the United States in light of the 2008 Farm Bill's provision for a sugar-to-ethanol program. He will present the economic and technical advantages and disadvantages of refining ethanol from sugar in the United States.

TRADE POLICY TRACK

February 27, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salon B

WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE MULTI-LATERAL TRADING SYSTEM?

Agricultural trade liberalization is the focus in this session. The U.S. context is important, but can not be isolated from the diverse views and interests of the rest of the world. Concluding the Doha Development round is not easy, some argue impossible. Skepticism is abundant. Eight years and counting feels like an eternity to negotiate; Interest can dwindle rapidly. Yet, this negotiating period is well within the context of earlier trade rounds. Many economic studies extol benefits from more liberalized trade, but penetrating the hearts and minds of U.S. voters remains an uphill challenge as the November 2008 election demonstrate. U.S. public support of trade agreements may be at an all time low. Imposing disciplines on domestic support weakens traditional farmer organization support. U.S. farm policy enjoys increasingly more diverse voices, but less so in the World Trade Organization context. U.S. agricultural exports have broken records in recent years, and a significant portion of the U.S. agricultural output continues to be exported to the large overseas market.

**Moderator: Paul Blustein, Journalist in Residence, The Brookings Institution
Washington, DC**

Paul Blustein, who focuses on trade, the IMF and World Bank, is writing a book about the World Trade Organization. As a former staff writer at the *Washington Post*, he covered economic policy and related issues and served as Asian economics correspondent in Tokyo for 5 years.

Past Positions: Staff Writer, the Washington Post, 1987-2006; Staff Reporter, the Wall Street Journal, 1979-1987; Writer, Forbes Magazine, 1975-1979; Visiting Fellow, the Institute for International Economics, Education 1999-2000; Guest Scholar, the Brookings Institution, 2003-2004

Education: B.A. (1973), the University of Wisconsin (Madison); M.A. (1975), Oxford University

Moving Forward on the Doha Round: How to Balance the Multiple Equations?

**Jeffery Schott
Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics
Washington, DC**

Jeffrey J. Schott joined the Peterson Institute for International Economics in 1983 and is a senior fellow working on international trade policy and economic sanctions. During his tenure at the Institute, Schott was also a visiting lecturer at Princeton University (1994) and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University (1986-88). He was a senior associate

at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1982–83) and an official of the US Treasury Department (1974–82) in international trade and energy policy. During the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations, he was a member of the US delegation that negotiated the GATT Subsidies Code. Since January 2003, he has been a member of the Trade and Environment Policy Advisory Committee of the US government. He is also a member of the Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy of the US Department of State.

Schott is the author, coauthor, or editor of several books on trade, including *Economic Sanctions Reconsidered*, 3rd edition (2007), *Trade Relations Between Colombia and the United States* (2006), *NAFTA Revisited: Achievements and Challenges* (2005), *Free Trade Agreements: US Strategies and Priorities* (2004), *Prospects for Free Trade in the Americas* (2001), *Free Trade between Korea and the United States?* (2001), *NAFTA and the Environment: Seven Years Later* (2000), *The WTO After Seattle* (2000), *Restarting Fast Track* (1998), *The World Trading System: Challenges Ahead* (December 1996), *The Uruguay Round: An Assessment* (1994), *Western Hemisphere Economic Integration* (1994), *NAFTA: An Assessment* (1993), *North American Free Trade: Issues and Recommendations* (1992), *Economic Sanctions Reconsidered: History and Current Policy* (second edition, 1990), *Completing the Uruguay Round* (1990), *Free Trade Areas and U.S. Trade Policy* (1989), and *The Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement: The Global Impact* (1988), as well as numerous articles on US trade policy and the GATT.

Schott holds a BA degree magna cum laude from Washington University, St. Louis (1971), and an MA degree with distinction in international relations from the School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University (1973).

Reform of Agricultural Trade Policies: A Continuum or Stalemate?

David Roberts

**Former Deputy Director General, DG-Agri, European Commission
London, United Kingdom**

David Roberts retired from the European Commission at the end of 2002. Since his retirement he has undertaken consultancy work for the FAO in India and for the Commonwealth Secretariat in the Caribbean and has also given advice on trade policy issues to companies. In his last post in the European Commission he was responsible for Agricultural Trade Policy and in that capacity was senior adviser to Commissioner Fischler at the Seattle and Doha WTO Ministerial Meetings and was European Community (EC) spokesman in the Agriculture Negotiating Committee during the Article 20 negotiations that followed Seattle and during the opening phase of the Doha Round. In his previous post in the Commission he was responsible for Agricultural Support Policy and in that capacity dealt with the changes in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) that were needed in order to implement the Uruguay Round as well as with the “MacSharry” reform of the CAP, which was what enabled the EC to accept the outcome of the Uruguay Round. He holds an MA degree from Oxford University.

Summary: The Doha mandate on agriculture called for “substantial improvement in access; reductions of, with a view to phasing out, all forms of export subsidies; and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support” and provided that “special and differential treatment of developing countries shall be an integral part of all elements of the negotiations”. It said that modalities for the further commitments should be established by 31 March 2003. That mandate could have been delivered by using the same framework as the one in the modalities agreed in the Uruguay Round, leaving only the sizes of the reductions to be made in tariffs, domestic support and export subsidies by developed and developing countries to be negotiated in order to arrive a full modalities agreement. Indeed, it is probable that the mandate could **only** have been delivered within the agreed deadline in this way. But instead, that deadline and a series of other deadlines that were established later were missed and after each missed deadline the complexity of the draft modalities grew, with the latest draft running to nearly 200 pages. In 2008 significant but still insufficient progress was made at a mini Ministerial in July. During the rest of the year negotiations continued at official level but WTO Director General Lamy decided these had not advanced far enough by December to justify calling the further Ministerial that had been pencilled in before Christmas. Nevertheless he called for official level negotiations to resume in the New Year. Depending on what progress has been made in these by the time of the Outlook Conference, it may be opportune to reflect why the negotiations have proved to be so difficult. Is it because the attempts reconcile the ambitions of the trade liberals with the reluctance of the conservatives have led to such a tangle of tough rules mitigated by complicated exceptions that the sheer complexity of what is on the table is itself an obstacle to agreement, or is there an irreconcilable divergence of view on agricultural trade within the WTO membership, or does the real problem lie outside Agriculture?

Developing Countries in Multi-lateral Trade Negotiations: What Stands in the Way of a Trade Agreement?

M. Ann Tutwiler

**Former Managing Director, Trade and Development, Global Poverty Program
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
Washington, DC**

Ann Tutwiler is the Former Managing Director, Agricultural Markets, for the Global Development Program at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. As the Hewlett Foundation's first managing director for trade and development, she created the initial trade and development grant strategy within the Global Development Program and manages a \$22 million grant portfolio of policy research and advocacy grantees spread across the United States, the European Union, South America and Africa. In addition, she has built coalitions of grantees working to reform U.S. farm policies and U.S. preference policies and also developed and implemented a new strategic plan with a focus on improving agricultural and agribusiness markets in Africa.

She joined the Hewlett Foundation after serving for four years as president and chief executive officer of the International Food & Agriculture Trade Policy Council, an organization that she co-founded in 1987. She served as Associate Director of the Council from its inception until 1992. Between 1992 and 2002, she was Director of Government Relations for the North American oilseed crushing and corn refining companies of Eridania Beghin-Say, the French food producer.

Previously, Ms. Tutwiler was a policy associate at the National Center for Food and Agriculture Policy, where she published dozens of articles and edited two books on international agriculture policies, and speaks widely on a variety of agricultural policy issues.

Ms. Tutwiler received a B.A. from Davidson College and a Masters in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She recently received the John W. Kuykendall Alumni Service Award from Davidson College for her work in agricultural trade and development. She is currently a member of the Advisory Council for the Dean Rusk International Studies Program at Davidson College, and serves on the Board of Directors of the International Fertilizer Development Center and the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa.

FARM POLICY TRACK

February 27, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salon III

RISK MANAGEMENT & THE NEW FARM BILL

The 2008 Farm Bill mandated many major changes that affect the way in which farmers manage and deal with risk. These include changes to the Crop Insurance and Disaster Assistance Title such as supplemental disaster assistance as well as changes to the commodity title most notably the Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE). The farm bill took policy in a new direction that directly influences farmers risk management decisions. This session will provide an overview of the new products and discuss how farmers may view the new options available to them.

**Moderator: Joy Harwood, Director of Economic and Policy Staff
Farm Service Agency, USDA
Washington, DC**

Joy Harwood is Director of the Economic and Policy Analysis Staff at USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), a position she has held since March, 2006. Her group has current insights into the market and policy issues affecting commodity programs and the Conservation Reserve Program, and is frequently called upon to brief policy officials on a wide variety of topics.

Prior to moving to FSA, she spent 19 years at USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), where she served as Deputy Director for Market Outlook (2001-06) and chief of ERS's Field Crops Branch (1996-2000). Earlier in her career, she managed ERS's risk management research project, and in 1998 served for a period as associate administrator of USDA's Risk Management Agency. She is a three-time recipient of the Secretary's Honor Award, one of the highest awards given by the Secretary of Agriculture. She was named "USDA Economist of the Year" in 1996.

During the 1990 farm bill debate, she was a Legis Fellow for Senator Bob Dole, at which time she worked on the development of the crop insurance title to the 1990 Farm Act, as well as trade, conservation, and commodity program issues. She co-taught the USDA Graduate School course, "Understanding USDA's Farm Programs" over a 10-year period with her husband, Craig Jagger, who is Chief Economist for the House Committee on Agriculture. She received a PhD from Cornell University in 1987.

Production Costs and Farm Revenue from Both the Banker and Farmer Perspectives

Robert Craven
Director, Center for Farm Financial Management
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota

Robert Craven is an Extension Economist and Director of the Center for Farm Financial Management, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota. He has been Director since 1997 and has held a position in the Center for 23 years. Areas of specialty include business management for farmers and credit analysis for agricultural lenders with emphasis on financial planning and analysis. His work for the Center has focused on development of FINPACK, nationally recognized software for whole farm financial planning and analysis. In the past several years he has worked to develop the crop marketing programs at the Center. One of the successful programs in this area is the "Winning the Game" series of workshops. He also played a key role in the development of the National Risk Management Education Library, a nationally funded web site for risk management educational materials.

He has been an invited speaker at numerous conferences and seminars. He has also taught over 150 workshops on farm financial management and receives high marks for his teaching. Awards received include the USDA Group Award for Superior Service and the American Agricultural Economics Association Group Award for Distinguished Extension Programs.

Mr. Craven is also actively involved in a 1600 acre family farming operation in southwestern Minnesota, where he has been the primary manager for the past fifteen years. He has a B.S. degree in Animal Science and an M.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Minnesota.

The Average Crop Revenue Program (ACRE) and Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) Programs

Carl Zulauf
McCormick Professor of Agricultural Marketing and Policy
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Carl Zulauf is a professor of agricultural economics at The Ohio State University. He has teaching responsibilities for managerial economics, economics of public policy, and futures and options markets. His research is focused on agricultural policy and agricultural futures and options markets. During 1985, Dr. Zulauf was on leave with Senator John Glenn's Washington D.C. office, assisting with food and agricultural legislation. During the summer of 1993, he was program director for Ohio State's study abroad program in the Czech Republic. During the spring of 2001, he served as program director for Ohio State's study abroad program in China and Taiwan. Professor Zulauf was raised on a general farm 60 miles north of Columbus, Ohio, and still has a business interest in the farm, primarily as a landowner. He received his B.S. and M.S. from Ohio State University in agricultural economics and his Ph.D. from the Food Research Institute, Stanford University.

Issues Associated with the New Farm Bill

Bradley Karmen
Assistant to the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs,
Farm Service Agency, USDA
Washington, DC

Bradley Karmen has more than 29 years of agricultural policy experience, almost all in the Farm Service Agency in Washington, DC. He is the Assistant to the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs and is responsible for developing and implementing policies relating to Federal farm programs.

In 1998, Brad was a member of a USDA Scientific Exchange team and spent 3 weeks in China studying China's oilseed sector. In 1994, Brad was selected to be a LEGIS fellow and was a staff member of the House Agriculture Committee, working on the 1994 crop insurance reform bill.

Brad is a veteran of 4 farm bills and is currently working on his fifth. In 2008, he was on detail to USDA's Office of the Chief Economist to help the Administration develop and implement its farm bill strategy.

Special Cotton Session
Mount Vernon Room
1:45-2:45 p.m.

WEST AFRICA COTTON OVERVIEW

Robert Hanson
Agricultural Attaché, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA
Dakar, Senegal

Robert H. Hanson joined the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in 1995 and has been working as Regional Agriculture Attaché in Dakar, Senegal since July 2006. Mr. Hanson has regional responsibility for Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Benin, and Côte d'Ivoire to promote U.S. agricultural interests as well as work to improve the region's integration into world food and agricultural markets. Previously, Mr. Hanson served as Team Leader on the USDA China trade policy desk working on bilateral agricultural trade issues. From September 2001 to July 2005 Mr. Hanson served as Regional Agriculture Attaché in Ankara, Turkey, also covering Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Prior to joining USDA's Foreign Service, Mr. Hanson worked as an oilseed commodity analyst in FAS/USDA for the East Asia region. Before joining USDA Mr. Hanson conducted land tenure research in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Mr. Hanson served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Côte d'Ivoire in 1991 and 1992. Mr. Hanson received both his B.A. in International Relations and his M.S. in Agriculture and Applied Economics from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. His foreign languages include Turkish and French.

COMMODITIES TRACK

February 27, 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Salons C, D, E

DAIRY OUTLOOK

**Moderator: Shayle Shagam, Livestock & Poultry Analyst
World Agricultural Outlook Board, USDA
Washington, DC**

Mr. Shagam currently serves as a dairy analyst in the World Agricultural Outlook Board where he chairs the Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICEC) for red meat, poultry and dairy. The ICECs bring together economic analysts from USDA agencies to generate the Department's monthly commodity forecasts. Between 1986 and 1998, Mr. Shagam worked for the Economic Research Service, USDA where he was responsible for developing forecasts of international red meat trade and commodity analysis support for the North American Free Trade Agreement and the WTO negotiations. Mr. Shagam graduated in 1980 from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in agricultural economics and received an M.S. in agricultural economics from Michigan State University in 1986.

Dairy Outlook

**Roger Hoskin
Agricultural Economist, Economic Research Service, USDA
Washington, DC**

Roger Hoskin is an outlook economist with the Economic Research Service (ERS) in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Roger is responsible for preparation of the dairy section of the *Livestock Dairy and Poultry Newsletter*. He is also responsible for the monthly *Milk Cost of Production* report. He has been working with dairy since April 2006. Prior to that, he has held varying assignments at ERS.

Roger worked in the old Former Soviet Union section during the period immediately after the demise of the Soviet Union. While there he did commodity work on eastern European countries. He also served n numerous technical assistance teams to Russia and other eastern European countries. He was also part of the forensic analysis team that worked with the Department of Justice on the Pigford cases. Earlier he was Oilseeds outlook analyst and was to oilseed crops what he is now to dairy. He began at ERS working in feed grains research on feed-livestock relationships. He has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University.

Milk Price Volatility: What's Old is New

Mark Stephenson

**Senior Extension Associate, Department of Applied Economics and Management,
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York**

Dr. Mark Stephenson received his bachelors and masters degrees in Dairy Science at Michigan State University in the late 1970s. He later returned to school at Cornell University changing emphasis from production agriculture to economics with special interest in dairy marketing. Prior to his present appointment he was a member of the faculty at the University of Wisconsin at River Falls.

Currently, Dr. Stephenson holds the position of Senior Extension Associate in the Department of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell and has held this position for 15 years. Recent research includes projects on value-added dairy processing, cost of processing in cheese, butter and powder plants, milk check premiums and deductions, cost of milk hauling, and refundable assessments and a mandatory CWT program.

Marketing Dairy Products During Price Volatility

Don Street

**President and CEO, Ecoval Dairy Trade, Inc.
Wayne, Pennsylvania**

Mr. Street is the managing director of the North and Central America division of Ecoval Dairy Trade. Ecoval Dairy Trade is a Netherlands based trading company with world wide interests in the processed milk markets. Prior to joining Ecoval Dairy Trade (formerly M.E. Franks, Inc. in the United States) in 1996, Mr. Street was employed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture with various responsibilities relating to export subsidy programs and the management of Commodity Credit Corporation stocks of dairy products. A native of Missouri, Mr. Street holds an MBA and an MS degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Missouri.

Summary: My presentation will discuss the impact of volatility in dairy products in world markets. I will cover the impact on manufacturers, end users, third country distributors and U.S.-based trading companies. I will also discuss the impact high prices have had on demand in world markets.

Special Dairy Portal Presentation
3:30-4:00 p.m.
Salons C, D, E

EXPANDING THE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE MARKET NEWS PORTAL TO DAIRY

Butch Speth
Market Information Branch, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA
Madison, Wisconsin

Butch Speth grew up working on his family's hog and beef farm in Southwestern Wisconsin. He received a degree in AgriBusiness from the University of Wisconsin - Platteville. Butch has worked for USDA for 22 years, 4 years with the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Kentucky and for 18 years with the Agricultural Marketing Service in Madison, Wisconsin, most recently as Supervisory Dairy Market News Reporter collecting and reporting real time dairy market information. With his apologies to actual computer professionals, he also serves as a systems administrator for networking and database issues.

Butch and his wife, Julie, live in Stoughton, Wisconsin. They have a daughter, Jenny, who is a college student in Chicago, and a son, Tom, a high school junior.

Jill Turosz
Project Manager, TechTeam, Government Solutions
Chantilly, Virginia

Jill Turosz is the Market News Portal Project Manager with TechTeam Government Solutions. Jill has fifteen years of experience in information technology and has been working with USDA for two years. Her experience at USDA includes enhancing the Fruit and Vegetable and Livestock and Grain Market News Portals as well as designing the new Poultry and Cotton Market News Portals. Jill completed her PMP from the Project Management Institute, an MBA from George Washington University, and a BS from the University of Notre Dame.

The 2009 Outlook Forum Adjourns at 3:15 p.m. with the exception of a special dairy session, which adjourns at 4 p.m.

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